



CITY OF ABERDEEN.



REPORT

BY

JAMES CUMMING, Chief Sanitary Inspector,

For the Year ended 31st December, 1929.





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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
4 ALBYN PLACE,
ABERDEEN, *May*, 1930.

To

The Department of Health for Scotland

AND

**The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and
Town Council of the City of Aberdeen**

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report of the work done in the Sanitary Inspector's Department during the year ended 31st December, 1929. The Report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Department.

In all branches of the Department's work, the year under review has been a very busy one, but particular reference must be made regarding the amount of work done in connection with housing conditions.

I have again to express my appreciation of the hearty co-operation and valuable services rendered by all the Members of the Staff.

REPORT.

COMPLAINTS.

Undernoted is a tabular statement regarding the number of complaints received, all of which were attended to:—

	Complaints Received.	No action necessary.
(a) Choked or defective drains and sanitary conveniences	765	153
(b) Dampness	186	45
(c) Want of cleanliness	267	127
(d) Overcrowding	243	70
(e) Dwellings infested with vermin	306	79
(f) Nuisances caused by keeping domestic animals ...	98	42
(g) Offensive smells	123	65
(h) Accumulations of Refuse	172	34
(i) Structural Repairs	1,183	45
(j) Other	105	49
	<u>3,448</u>	<u>709</u>

The total number of complaints was 3,448, as compared with 3,499 in the previous year. As has been the case for several years, the largest proportion of the complaints referred to the need for structural repairs.

DRAINAGE.

During the year, the drainage and sanitary arrangements of 31 properties were examined and of these 30 were found to be defective. The owners of these houses were called upon to carry out the alterations necessary in order to put the premises in accordance with modern requirements. In 23 cases, the work was completed before the end of the year. In 3 properties, in connection with which notices were served in the previous year, the necessary alterations were completed in the course of the past year.

Details of the work done are given in Appendix II. (A).

The number of choked drains was 985, as compared with 1,056 in the previous year; while the number of choked w.c.'s was 155, as compared with 184. In no case was it found necessary during the past year to institute legal proceedings against a house proprietor for failure to clear out a choked drain or w.c.

As has been stated in previous reports, there is no doubt that a large percentage of such chokages is due to improper usage on the part of the tenants. Several years ago the Department introduced the policy of sending letters of warning to the tenants in all cases where there was reason to believe that the chokage was due to wilful interference or improper use. During the year, 200 letters were sent, as compared with 164 in the previous year.

Fishers' Squares, Footdee.

Nothing has yet been done to improve the sanitary condition of the houses in these Squares.

Water Closets and Sinks.

In a circular issued by the Department of Health for Scotland on 27th December last regarding Annual Reports by Sanitary Inspectors, attention is particularly directed to the Scottish Board of Health's circular of 1st September, 1925; and the Department request Sanitary Inspectors again to deal specially with this subject in their report for the past year, and also to give the additional information therein requested, viz., particulars as to:—

- (I) The number of common water-closets in use in the Burgh, shewing separately the number serving 2, 3, 4 and 5, or more tenants, respectively;
- (II) The number of houses without water supply and sink inside the house; and
- (III) The number of (a) dry closets, (b) privy middens, and (c) ashpits, shewing for each separately the number serving 2, 3, 4 and 5, or more tenants, respectively.

W.Cs.

The following table giving information regarding the common w.c.s. provided for the various number of tenants in each property appeared in the Annual Report for 1925:—

Number of w.c.s. used by not more than—

Two Tenants.	Three Tenants.	Four Tenants.	Five or more Tenants.
1,524	1,685	968	592

Since that date 56 w.c.s. have been fitted up in properties where a w.c. was used by five or more tenants.

Sinks.

As the result of the survey made in 1925 it was found that the number of dwellings in tenemented properties without sinks inside the houses was 6,318. In 5,530 of these houses the water supply was obtained from common sinks in the stair landings, and in the remaining 788 houses, the only water supply available is from water taps in the back courts. Since that date, 25 sinks have been fitted up inside houses.

The majority of the houses without adequate water supply and w.c. accommodation are in other respects not reasonably fit for human habitation and should be closed as soon as possible.

Dry Closets, Privy Middens and Ashpits.

The total number of Dry Closets in 1925 was 115, of which 90 were used by one tenant, 9 by two tenants, and 16 by three or more tenants. The total number of privy middens was 14—all of which were used by a single tenant. Twenty-eight w.cs. have been fitted up in lieu of privies and privy middens. Practically all the dwelling-houses in connection with which there are dry closets or privy middens are situated in the outskirts of the City and in districts in which there are neither water mains nor sewers. Eight properties which were provided with dry closets or privy middens have been demolished and the sites utilised for feuing purposes. The houses referred to consist mainly of small cottages in which the ceilings are low and the light and ventilation inadequate, so that nothing short of reconstruction would render such houses fit for human habitation. As these houses are principally situated in districts where recently a considerable amount of feuing has taken place the owners would readily demolish the houses if alternative accommodation could be found for the tenants. In any case where this was not done by the owner, the houses could be dealt with by Closing Orders, but again lack of alternative accommodation prevents this being done meantime.

Ashpits.

The total number of ashpits in 1925 was 30. The number has now been reduced to 26. All the ashpits are situated in the outskirts of the City.

HOUSING.

Number of New Houses.

The following table, furnished by Mr. A. B. Gardner, Director of Housing, shows the number of houses contracted for, completed, and under construction

under the Corporation Housing Schemes since 1919, as also the number of houses erected by private enterprise with the aid of a subsidy as at 31st December last :—

		Torry	...	262	
		Cattofield	...	48	
		Hilton	...	300	
		Smithfield	...	40	
		Slum Clearance		96	
		Hilton and			
(1) No. of houses contracted for ...		Cattofield	...	1,000	
		Pittodrie	...	248	
		School Road	...	392	
		Ruthrieston	...	256	
		Torry (Slum Clearance)	...	200	
				—	2,842
		Torry	...	262	
		Cattofield	...	48	
		Hilton	...	300	
		Smithfield	...	40	
		Slum Clearance		96	
		Hilton and			
		Cattofield	...	1,000	
		Pittodrie	...	248	
				—	1,994
		School Road	...	240	
		Ruthrieston	...	56	
		Torry	...	96	
				—	392
		School Road	...	152	
		Ruthrieston	...	200	
		Torry	...	104	
				—	456
				—	2,842
(5) No. of houses approved for erection by private enterprise with the aid of subsidies under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	946	
(6) No. of such houses erected	...	...	...	803	

All the houses erected or proposed to be erected under the Housing Schemes are of a size not exceeding four rooms.

Of the 803 houses erected with the aid of a subsidy, 180 contained more than four rooms.

I am indebted to the Burgh Surveyor's Department for the following information regarding the number of houses built, inclusive of houses erected under the Housing (Financial Assistance to Builders) Scheme (Scotland), 1920 :—

	HOUSES ERECTED WITHOUT SUBSIDY.			HOUSES ERECTED WITH SUBSIDY.	
	Total No. of Dwelling-houses.	No. of houses of Four rooms and under.		Total No. of Dwelling-houses.	No. of houses of Four rooms and under.
1919 . . .	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>	...	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
1920 . . .	1	1	...	1	<i>Nil</i>
1921 . . .	3	3	...	27	9
1922 . . .	8	<i>Nil</i>	...	21	8
1923 . . .	34	26	...	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
1924 . . .	53	16	...	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
1925 . . .	39	7	...	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
1926 . . .	19	5	...	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
1927 . . .	45	14	...	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
1928 . . .	38	12	...	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
1929 . . .	21	5	...	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
Totals,	271	89	...	49	17

During 1929, the plans of 51 non-subsidy houses—29 of which consisted of houses of more than four rooms—were approved, but the erection of none of these houses was completed by the end of the year.

It will be seen, therefore, that the total number of dwelling-houses, inclusive of 96 dwelling-houses under the Slum-Clearance Scheme, erected in Aberdeen during the period 1919-29 was 3,117, and of these 384 contained more than four rooms.

From 1919 to 1926, the number of houses erected was 922, being an average of about 115 houses per year. The number of houses erected in 1927 was 539 ; in 1928, 727 ; while the number during 1929, was 929. For the last three years, therefore, the average number of houses erected was 732.

At the close of the year, there were 392 houses under construction, and 456 houses had been contracted for, although their erection had not at that time been commenced. Since the close of the year, the Council have resolved to erect 108 houses of the three-apartment and 60 houses of the two-apartment type at Torry ; and have also approved of the erection of three blocks of houses of the tenement type (2 and 3 apartments) on the vacant piece of ground belonging to the Council on the west side of Park Road. Each Block will have accommodation for six tenants, and the design of the houses will be such as will permit of their being eligible for a subsidy under the Housing Acts. The Housing Committee are also

considering the erection of tenemented dwelling-houses on vacant corner feus or otherwise in various streets in the City.

As stated in my report for the previous year, it was found on examining the applications for the two-roomed houses that no fewer than 170 of the applicants required houses of three rooms and upwards before overcrowding—based even on the low standard of 400 cubic feet per adult—or mixing of sexes in their households could be abated. This number was, by the end of the year increased to 267. Examination of these applications show that in 63 cases the household consists of 8 persons, and in 21 of these cases, the total household income is less than £4 per week, and in 7 cases less than £3 per week.

In 65 cases, the household consisted of 9 persons, and in 31 cases the total household income is less than £4 per week, and in 15 cases less than £3.

In 28 cases, the household consisted of 10 persons, and in 11 cases the total household income is less than £4, and in 5 cases less than £3.

In 13 cases the household consisted of 11 persons, and in 4 cases the total household income is less than £4, and in 2 cases less than £3.

In 7 cases, the household consisted of 12 persons, and in 1 case the total household income is less than £4.

The total number of houses completed in the City under the various housing schemes, exclusive of 96 dwellings erected under the Slum Clearance Scheme, is 1,898. Of these 154 contain four rooms, 1,448 three rooms, and 296 two rooms. The rents of the four-roomed houses, exclusive of rates, are £32 10s.; while the rents of the three-roomed houses, also exclusive of rates, range from £22 to £28. Houses of these rentals are, however, beyond the means of the applicants referred to. No three-roomed houses of a cheaper type have yet been completed, although the erection of 284 has been arranged for. The rents of these houses have been fixed at 8s. per week, inclusive of rates, so that in the near future three-roomed houses capable of being occupied by those applicants with low wages will be available.

It is obvious however, that before a large number of the applicants can be satisfactorily housed, four-roomed houses are essential, and the Housing Committee are meantime applying their minds to this necessity.

Overcrowding.

Reference to the table on page 16 shows the number of overcrowded houses which have been brought to the knowledge of the Health Department.

It will be observed that during the past year the number of overcrowded houses discovered by the staff was 503. This large number is due to the fact that the dwellings of a large number of the applicants for the new houses were measured in order to ensure that priority was given to those living under badly overcrowded conditions. The number of cases where the excess was greater than two adults

was 92. In two cases the excess was as great as $6\frac{1}{2}$ adults; while in three cases the excess was, respectively, 6, $5\frac{1}{2}$ and 5 adults.

Acting upon instructions received from the Housing Committee, the majority of the two-roomed houses at Pittodrie were allocated to applicants who were living under grossly overcrowded conditions. There is accommodation in these houses—based on a standard of 400 cubic feet per adult—for the equivalent of 7 adults—two children under the age of 10 years being reckoned as one adult.

Undernoted are particulars regarding a number of the gross cases thus dealt with:—

(1) Household consisted of husband, wife, 4 sons, aged 13, 9, 4 and 2 years; and 3 daughters, aged 10, 8 and 1 year—a total of $6\frac{1}{2}$ adults living in *one room* in which there was accommodation for $2\frac{1}{2}$ adults. *There was therefore an excess of $\frac{1}{4}$ adults.*

The total household income was £3 per week.

(2) Household consisted of husband, wife, 4 daughters, aged 16, 13, 3 and 1 year; and 2 sons, aged 10 and 6 years—a total of $6\frac{1}{2}$ adults living in *one room* in which there was accommodation for 3 adults only. *There was therefore an excess of $3\frac{1}{2}$ adults.*

The total household income was £3 9s. 6d. per week.

(3) Household consisted of husband, wife, 3 daughters, aged 15, 12 and 10 years; and 2 sons, aged 7 and 1 year—a total of 6 adults living in *one room* in which there was accommodation for $2\frac{1}{2}$ adults only. *There was therefore an excess of $3\frac{1}{2}$ adults.*

The average income of the household was £3 per week.

(4) Household consisted of husband, wife, and 6 daughters, aged 14, 10, 8, 4, 2 and 1 year—a total of 6 adults living in *one room* in which there was accommodation for $2\frac{1}{2}$ adults only. *There was therefore an excess of $3\frac{1}{2}$ adults.*

The average income of the household was about £3 10s. per week.

(5) Household consisted of husband, wife, 3 daughters, aged $13\frac{1}{2}$, 7 and 1 year; and 3 sons, aged 12, 9 and 3 years—a total of 6 adults living in *one room* in which there was accommodation for $2\frac{1}{2}$ adults only. *There was therefore an excess of $3\frac{1}{2}$ adults.*

The total household income was £2 10s. per week.

(6) Household consisted of husband, wife, 3 sons, aged 14, 4 and 2 years; and 3 daughters, aged 12, 9 and 1 year—a total of 6 adults living in *one room* in which there was accommodation for 2 adults only. *There was therefore an excess of 4 adults.*

The total household income was £3 1s. per week.

(7) Household consisted of husband, wife, and 5 daughters, aged 17, 15, 11, 8 and 1 year—a total of 6 adults living in *one room* in which there was accommodation for 4 adults only. *There was therefore an excess of 2 adults.*

The total household income was £3 13s. per week.

(8) Household consisted of husband, wife, 4 daughters, aged 11, 5, 2 and 1/12 years; and 3 sons, aged 9, 7 and 6 years—a total of 6 adults living in *one room* in which there was accommodation for 4½ adults only. *There was therefore an excess of 1½ adults.*

The total household income was £2 6s. per week.

(9) Household consisted of husband, wife, 4 daughters, aged 15, 12, 9 and 3 years; and 1 son, aged 5 years—a total of 5½ adults living in *one room* in which there was accommodation for 3 adults only. *There was therefore an excess of 2½ adults.*

The total household income was £2 8s. 10d. per week.

(10) Household consisted of husband, wife, 4 sons, aged 15, 8, 5 and 2 years; and 1 daughter, aged 7 years—a total of 5 adults living in *one room* in which there was accommodation for 2½ adults only. *There was therefore an excess of 2½ adults.*

The total household income was £2 6s. per week.

(11) Household consisted of husband, wife, 2 sons, aged 12 and 2 years; and 4 daughters, aged 9, 8, 4 and 1 year—a total of 5½ adults *living in a caravan* for which 5s. weekly was being paid.

The total household income was £2 9s. per week.

(12) Household consisted of husband, wife, 4 daughters, aged 9, 8, 4 and 2 years; and 2 sons, aged 12 and 1 year—a total of 5½ adults *living in a caravan* for which 5s. weekly was being paid.

The total household income was £2 10s. per week.

It will be observed that in all the aforementioned cases the applicants were living either in single rooms or in caravans. While it has to be frankly admitted that in all these cases a house of the size of at least three rooms was desirable, it has to be kept in mind that no three-roomed houses within the means of these applicants were available. Consequently it was felt that it was a decided advantage to accommodate these applicants in a two-roomed house in lieu of allowing them to remain in their existing conditions. However, these householders will, as soon as a sufficient number of three-roomed houses are available, be asked to remove into a house of this size, and now that houses of this type can be let at an

inclusive rental of 8s. per week, there is every reason to believe that a considerable proportion of the householders referred to will avail themselves of the opportunity which will then be afforded them.

As already stated, the Pittodrie houses have been let to applicants who were living under overcrowded conditions, and in practically no case was the excess less than the equivalent of $1\frac{1}{2}$ adults. A large number of the gross cases of overcrowding have, therefore, been abated. The Housing Committee have decided that the 384 houses now in course of erection at School Road will also be let to applicants who are living under overcrowded conditions, but, unless in exceptional cases, the total number of persons allowed into these houses will not exceed the equivalent of four adults.

As regards the two-roomed houses in course of erection at Ruthrieston and Torry, the Town Council have, on the suggestion of the Department of Health for Scotland, given an undertaking that the tenancy of each of these houses will be restricted to families of not more than the equivalent of two adults and two children under ten years of age. This will enable accommodation to be provided for young couples who since the date of their marriage have been compelled to live in sublet rooms for which, as stated in previous reports, extortionate rents are being charged. Moreover, accommodation can also be provided for a number of applicants who are living in "undersized" rooms. In terms of the Aberdeen Police and Waterworks Act, 1867, it is not lawful to let as a separate dwelling-house, any building or part of a building which is not of the following dimensions, viz. :—

- (a) If such dwelling-house consists of one apartment, and was used as a separate dwelling-house previous to the passing of the Act, unless it contains at least 700 cubic feet of space, or, if it was not so used, unless it contains at least 900 cubic feet of space ;
- (b) If such dwelling-house consists of only two apartments, and was used as a separate dwelling-house previous to the passing of the Act, unless it contains at least 1,200 cubic feet of space, or, if it was not so used, unless it contains 1,500 cubic feet of space ; and
- (c) If such dwelling-house consists of only three apartments, and was used as a separate dwelling-house previous to the passing of the Act, unless it contains at least 1,800 cubic feet of space, or, if it was not so used, unless it contains at least 2,000 cubic feet of space.

There is a large number of applicants with one or two children who are meantime living in single undersized rooms. So far it has not been found possible to allocate new houses to such applicants, but as the result of the undertaking referred to, an opportunity will be afforded of dealing with this type of applicant.

	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
Houses measured,	1,640	1,406	711	609	709	742	792	724	691	639	572	550	463	913
Number found overcrowded, .	90	106	99	58	130	167	137	170	202	168	168	162	247	503
Number where overcrowding was abated,	89	98	82	42	66	78	49	41	64	29	39	49	148	86
Number where overcrowd- ing was not abated, .	1	8	17	16	64	89	88	129	138	139	129	113	99	417
Number where excess was not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ adult, . . .	22	32	18	12	16	27	18	24	37	29	30	15	33	106
Do. do. 1 ,,	27	41	50	18	53	54	48	49	54	49	51	40	69	142
Do. do. $1\frac{1}{2}$ adults, . . .	22	17	15	14	26	36	29	37	38	26	33	34	64	100
Do. do. 2 ,	14	11	10	9	17	17	16	26	28	31	28	36	36	63
Do. do. $2\frac{1}{2}$,,	3	3	3	3	7	15	10	12	19	11	8	10	16	45
Do. do. 3 ,,	0	2	1	2	5	5	7	13	11	10	9	13	11	23
Do. do. $3\frac{1}{2}$,,	0	0	1	0	4	7	4	2	8	7	2	4	7	5
Do. do. 4 ,,	2	0	0	0	1	3	4	1	4	1	2	4	8	9
Do. do. $4\frac{1}{2}$,,	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	0	5
Do. do. 5 ,,	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	2	2	1
Do. do. $5\frac{1}{2}$,,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	2	0	1
Do. do. 6 ,,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1
Do. do. $6\frac{1}{2}$,,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

Insanitary Dwellings.

No dwellings were closed during the year as being unfit for human habitation.

As stated in previous reports it was estimated in 1926 that there were 1,500 insanitary dwellings outwith the slum clearance areas which required to be closed, and alternative accommodation provided for the tenants. As the result of additional surveys which have been made, it has been found that this number will require to be materially increased before the housing conditions in the City can be regarded as satisfactory.

The Housing (Scotland) Bill, which is at present before Parliament, makes a radical alteration of the basis of Exchequer assistance towards the cost of dealing with unhealthy areas. It is proposed, *inter alia*, that the scope of the grant shall be extended, and that it shall be so fixed as to give an increased measure of assistance to local authorities, and also enable them to let the houses to be provided for rehousing displaced persons at rents definitely lower than the level of rents of houses provided under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1924.

The Bill further provides for an additional grant being allowed to meet conditions arising out of the tenement system which prevails to such a considerable extent in those areas in Scotland where clearance is specially necessary. Frequently a tenement includes both insanitary and sanitary premises, and if the demolition of such a tenement is required because of the insanitary houses therein, the Local Authority have to pay compensation at market value for the sanitary premises. To meet this expenditure of the Local Authority, the Bill proposes to increase the grant. In Aberdeen there is a large number of tenement properties in which some of the dwellings therein could not be classed as insanitary, and in which there are also a shop or shops on the ground floor. Hitherto no increased grant was available for such parts of the premises.

Slum Clearance Scheme.

None of the 96 houses vacated under this Scheme have yet been demolished, but a commencement will be made as soon as the remainder of the houses required to accommodate the displaced tenants has been erected. These houses, consisting of 80 two-apartment and 120 three-apartment houses, are in course of erection at Torry. The Department of Health for Scotland have stipulated that in so far as the afore-mentioned houses are not required for the re-housing of families from the area to be cleared under the Aberdeen Improvement Scheme, 1925, the Local Authority will close and demolish an equivalent number of uninhabitable houses in the City.

Sub-let Houses.

Full particulars have been given in previous Annual Reports regarding the number of sublet houses in the City. As a result of a census of tenemented houses taken by the staff in 1926, it was found that there were 1,991 families living in sublet apartments. Comparatively few of these sublet tenants have been accommodated in the new houses built since that date. Moreover, it is within the knowledge of the Department that a fairly large number of citizens who have been married since the census was taken have been compelled to find accommodation in sublet houses. Consequently there is reason to believe that the number of sublet houses in the City is meantime not less than 2,500, and may even considerably exceed that number.

There must also be taken into consideration the inadequacy of the sink or w.c. accommodation available for these sub-tenants. The apartment in which the sink is situated is usually occupied by the principal tenant, with the result that the sub-tenant is dependent upon the principal tenant for the use of a water supply. Numerous complaints have been received from sub-tenants to the effect that they have been prohibited from using the sink in the kitchen, with the result that they had no alternative but to obtain their water supply from a tap in the wash-house, which is almost invariably situated in the back court. As the result of the sub-letting, the w.c. accommodation available is inadequate for the number of families meantime residing in these properties. It has not been considered advisable to call upon the proprietors to fit up additional sinks and w.c.'s. In the majority of cases, the sub-letting has been done without the consent of the

owner, and consequently he would be very unwilling to provide the necessary additional accommodation. Moreover, the number of one and two-roomed houses in the City was, before sub-letting came into existence, so large that it was felt it would be a retrograde step to attempt to compel the provision of sinks in sub-let apartments and thus tend to perpetuate the use of such apartments as separate dwellings.

Moreover, the sub-tenant has no fixity of tenure and can be compelled to vacate the sublet room when requested to do so by the principal tenant. The result is that during the summer months a large number of sub-tenants have to find accommodation elsewhere in order to allow of the principal tenant letting the room or rooms to summer visitors. Consequently the sub-tenant has the greatest difficulty in finding accommodation of any kind, and when found, such accommodation is as a rule very unsatisfactory.

Conversion and Demolition of Existing Dwelling-Houses for Business Purposes, &c.

Since the revocation of the Housing (Additional Powers) Act in December, 1921, 266 dwelling-houses have either been demolished or have ceased to be used as dwelling-houses.

Present Housing Needs.

In a Return submitted to the Department of Health in October, 1926, the *immediate housing requirements* of the City were summarised as follows :—

I. To relieve overcrowding	...	...	...	...	1,000 houses.
II. To replace houses at present occupied which should be closed and demolished (not to include houses entered under III)	...	...	...	...	1,500 „
III. To re-house persons who will be dispossessed by Improvement and Reconstruction Schemes under Part II. of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1925	...	...	...	...	318 „
IV. To accommodate persons at present living in furnished apartments or otherwise who desire a house	...	...	...	...	2,500 „
Total					5,318 houses.

Since the date of that Return, excellent progress has been made, and the erection of no fewer than 2,450 houses have been completed or arranged for under the various Housing Schemes. This leaves 2,868 houses still to be provided.

No houses have, however, yet been erected to replace the 1,500 houses which should be closed and demolished, and as already stated subsequent investigation has shown that at least 2,500 additional houses are still needed to accommodate persons at present living in furnished apartments, or who otherwise desire a house. In order, therefore, to meet the present needs, at least 4,000 houses are still required. Based on the average number of houses erected during each of the last three years, it will take, say, five or six years to provide this number.

If the powers contained in the Aberdeen Corporation Order, 1930, regarding the provision of a new street to the Beach and the widening of Upperkirkgate are granted and fully exercised, the number of dwelling-houses required to provide accommodation for the displaced tenants will be, approximately 400.

REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR SCOTLAND FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1929, ON PROCEEDINGS TAKEN AS REGARDS THE INSPEC-
TION, IMPROVEMENT, AND CLOSURE OF DWELLING-HOUSES.

A.—Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations (Scotland), 1928.

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Number of dwelling-houses inspected | None. |
| 2. Number of dwelling-houses which, on inspection, were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | None. |
| 3. Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of closing orders. | None. |
| 4. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders were made. | None. |
| 5. Number of dwelling-houses the defects in which were remedied without either the making of closing orders or the service of notices under Section 3 (1) of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1925. | None. |
| 6. Number of dwelling-houses which, after the making of closing orders, were put into a fit state for human habitation. | None. |

B.—Housing (Scotland) Act, 1925.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served under Section 3 (1). | 1,705 |
| 2. Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit for human habitation under Section 3 (1). | 1,613 (including 156 carried forward from the previous year). |
| 3. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders were deemed to have become operative under Section 3 (1). | None, but two dwelling-houses were voluntarily closed by the owners with the consent of the Public Health Department. |
| 4. Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit for human habitation by the Local Authority under Section 3 (2). | None. |
| 5. Number of cases where intimations were given under Section 20 (1) as to insufficient water-closet accommodation :—
(a) Cases where requirement complied with by owners.
(b) Cases where works carried out by Local Authority after failure of owners to do so.
(c) Cases still pending. | Not applicable to burghs. Under a local Act notice served in one case to provide an additional w.c., and the notice was complied with by the owner. |
| 6. Number of houses of (a) one apartment and (b) two apartments for the erection of which the consent of the Local Authority has been given in terms of Section 111. | (a) None; (b) 552 dwelling-houses— all in connection with Housing Schemes. |

C.—Housing, Town Planning, &c. (Scotland) Act, 1919.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Number of cases where notices were served under Section 40 (1) to provide dwelling-houses with water supply :—</p> <p>(a) Cases where requirements complied with by owners.</p> <p>(b) Cases where works carried out by Local Authority after failure of owners to do so.</p> <p>(c) Cases still pending.</p> | <p>Not applicable to burghs. Under a local Act, notice was served to provide an additional sink, and the notice was complied with by the owner.</p> |
|---|---|

NOTE.—Any general information or observations as to the character of defects usually found to exist, as to the extent to which overcrowding was found to prevail and the steps taken to remedy it, or as to the work of inspection generally, should be entered in the space below :—

The defects found to exist consisted of want of repair in regard to roof coverings, flooring, stair-treads and balusters, doors, fireplaces and grates, and the plaster work of walls and ceilings; also in regard to defects in drainage, including defective w.c.s. and sinks, want of sufficient ventilation (unhung windows, &c.), dampness, dilapidated wash-houses (including boilers, tubs, &c.), w.c. apartments and coal cellars.

In addition to the houses mentioned in 1B, a complete sanitary survey was made of 195 houses in which tuberculosis had occurred. In none of these cases was it found necessary to serve formal notices.

Structural Defects and Want of Repair.

Particulars as to the work done will be found in Appendix II. (B).

As has been the practice for a number of years, a complete sanitary survey is made of all houses in which a case of tuberculosis has occurred, or to which a person still suffering from that disease has removed.

During the past year, the number of such surveys was 214.

All structural defects and want of repair found in these houses were dealt with. Special attention was paid to the proper ventilation of the sleeping apartments and to their freedom from dampness.

The number of complaints received regarding structural defects and want of repair was 1,183, as compared with 1,185 in the previous year. In only 45 of these cases was it found that there was no cause for complaint. The Inspectors, in the course of the systematic inspection of their district, pay particular attention to these conditions, with the result that every structural defect coming under their notice is immediately dealt with.

As has been stated in previous reports, a large amount of work has been done by the Department in past years in order to secure that the windows of all sleeping apartments can be easily opened for purposes of ventilation. The result has been that there are now comparatively few windows which do not comply with these requirements, so that during the year only 20 sleeping apartments required to be dealt with. In one case it was found that an unsuitable apartment was being used for sleeping purposes, and after notice had been served upon the occupant, the apartment ceased to be used for that purpose.

As can be readily understood, dampness is a frequent source of complaint in the older type of dwellings, and in this connection 152 dwellings were dealt with. In 77 properties the roof coverings were repaired; in 17, the window rebats repointed; in 3 the external walls were reharled or otherwise repaired; and in 55 other remedial measures were carried out.

In the inspection of houses, careful attention is paid to any want of repair. During the past year, the floors of 50 dwelling apartments were repaired, as were also the floors of 139 lobbies and stair landings (including stair steps). In 193 dwelling apartments, 614 lobbies and staircases, 192 water-closets, 164 wash-houses, and 44 pends, the plaster on the walls and ceilings was repaired. The woodwork around sinks was renewed or repaired in 63 houses; 30 defective chimneys and 79 grates or fire-places were repaired; while the doors of dwelling apartments were renewed or repaired in 60 cases.

As was stated in previous reports, it was found that proprietors are prone to allow wash-houses, w.c.s., and cellars to fall into a state of disrepair.

I have again to draw attention to the fact that a considerable amount of the want of repair in a number of houses is due to carelessness or malicious mischief. During the year, 439 windows or roof-lights were reglazed at the instance of the Department, as compared with 538 in the previous year, and 556 in 1927. In a great many cases it was impossible to discover the culprits. It is common knowledge that frequently the damage is not caused by the tenants or their families, but is the result of malicious mischief on the part of young persons in the district. In other cases, however, the damage is undoubtedly caused by the tenants or their families. In 10 cases, letters were sent to householders regarding damage done to properties.

Paving of Back Courts and Passages.

There are now comparatively few properties in the City where the back courts are not paved or otherwise suitably surfaced. There is, however, a large number of houses where the passages leading to the outhouses have never been paved, and have been allowed to get into an unsatisfactory condition. During the year, 2 passages were paved, while 30 courts and 29 passages were repaired. The paving of these courts and passages adds greatly to the comfort of the tenants.

Vermineous Persons and Houses.

Under the agreement between the Education Authority and the Town Council for dealing with verminous persons and houses, 48 families, comprising 308 persons, were removed to the Cleansing Station for treatment. In the previous year the numbers were, respectively, 57 and 352; and in 1927, 53 and 293.

In addition to the foregoing, 78 persons suffering from scabies and 52 verminous persons were treated at the Cleansing Station. These persons, apart from 36 children belonging to a private institution, came from households in which

there were no school children, and, therefore, did not fall to be dealt with under the agreement with the Education Authority. In the previous year, the numbers were, respectively, 37 and 52.

The number of bug-infested houses dealt with during the year was 81, as compared with 74 in the preceding year and 47 in 1927.

Pilthy Houses.

During the year, the floors of 101 dwelling apartments, the articles of furniture in 95 apartments, and 97 sets of bed and body clothing were cleaned by the occupants after notices had been served upon them.

There is a considerable number of houses which require to be re-visited frequently in order to ensure that a satisfactory standard of cleanliness is being maintained.

I have again to record the great assistance received from the Parish Council, who are ready at all times to admit into their hospital those of the aged and infirm poor who are no longer able to look after themselves or their homes. Immediately after the removal of such cases to hospital, the houses, bedding, and clothing are disinfected by this Department.

Cleansing of Walls and Ceilings of Dwelling Apartments, Lobbies, Staircases, W.C.s., Wash-houses, &c.

The walls and ceilings of 125 dwelling apartments were distempered or repapered. In the previous year the number was 86.

The walls and ceilings of 1,459 lobbies and staircases, 422 passages or pends, 3,058 water-closets, 1,788 wash-houses, and 64 drying-lofts were whitewashed or otherwise cleaned. In the previous year, 1,482 lobbies and staircases, 469 passages or pends, 3,016 water-closets, 1,746 wash-houses, and 51 drying-lofts were similarly cleansed.

Want of Cleanliness of W.C.s., Lobbies, Staircases, Back Courts, and other parts of Premises used in Common.

Notices were served upon 224 sets of tenants, embracing 1,203 individual tenants regarding their failure to clean the parts of the premises used in common by them. It was not found necessary to institute legal proceedings in connection with any of these cases.

Accumulations of Ashes, Filth, and other Rubbish.

The number of accumulations of ashes, filth, and other rubbish removed was 187, as compared with 205 in the previous year.

Letters of warning were sent to 121 householders regarding the throwing of refuse from the windows of dwelling-houses on to back courts or on to ground or outhouses connected with adjoining properties.

INCREASE OF RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTION) ACTS, 1920 AND 1923.

Applications for Certificates by Tenants.

No application for a certificate in terms of Section 2 (2) of the principal Act was received.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Six complaints were received regarding excessive emissions of smoke. Two of these complaints referred to factories, two to institutions, one to a shed in which steam wagons were stored, and one to a fish restaurant. In each case letters of warning were sent, and on further inspections being made it was found that a considerable improvement had been effected.

Observations were made from time to time of the quantities of smoke emitted from the chimneys of premises which in previous years had been the cause of nuisance. The number of such observations were 67, and the periods of observation ranged from 15 to 60 minutes. No cause for complaint was found in 57 of these cases, and in the remaining 10, warnings were given.

Visits were also paid to the Railway Station and vicinity, when 140 engines were kept under observation. The Railway Company were communicated with regarding the excessive quantities of smoke discharged from 22 of these engines.

As has been the practice for several years, the steam wagons passing along the streets have been kept under observation and the number of wagons so dealt with in the course of the year was 1,392. In four cases letters were sent to the proprietors regarding excessive emissions of smoke. There was, however, a number of other wagons regarding which exception could have been taken to the quantities of smoke emitted. Difficulty was, however, experienced in getting near enough to the wagons to identify them. Experience has proved that the excessive emissions of smoke from railway engines and steam wagons can be prevented, and it is to be hoped that both employers and employees will co-operate in preventing nuisance.

Within recent years, the increasing use of electricity and gas for power purposes in factories, and the use of electrical and gas appliances for cooking and heating purposes in dwelling-houses, have been an important factor in connection with smoke abatement.

I am informed by the Electrical Engineer that—"The increase in the use of electricity for domestic and office heating has continued, and there was a marked advance during the cold spell which occurred in the early part of the year. For large buildings it is now a practical and commercial proposition to use thermal storage, electricity being used during the night hours to store heat in water which is circulated through hot-water radiators during the day. It is hoped that an installation on these lines may be adopted in Aberdeen in the not too distant future, so helping to reduce the smoke problem.

"Another large works has made arrangements to shut down its steam plant as far as power requirements are concerned, and the change over to electric drive was in process of being accomplished at the end of the calendar year. There are, however, many works which still require steam for process work, so that even when electric power is adopted for the machinery, a certain amount of coal has still to be consumed."

The Gas Engineer states—"During the past year gas fires, gas radiators, gas cookers, gas wash-boilers and gas-heated hot-water appliances, already numbering considerably over 40,000, continue to be much in demand, and the time when gaseous fuel will almost completely supersede smoke-producing solid fuel is surely, if slowly, approaching."

"The demand for gas coke during the past winter has been so great that many orders from outlying parts have had to be turned down—the available supply being insufficient to meet the requirements of both town and neighbourhood. During the past year upwards of 57,000 tons of this solid smokeless fuel have been distributed, and continues to be much in demand for domestic as well as for several industrial purposes."

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Slaughter-Houses.

At the end of 1929 there were 5 slaughter-houses in the City, containing 33 slaughter booths, being the same number as in the preceding year.

Other Offensive Trades.

At the end of the year there were 22 firms in the City who carry on one or more of the businesses set forth in the Public Health Act as coming within the definition of offensive trades.

The following is a list of the offensive businesses carried on :—

Bone Boilers	...	...	6	Tripe Boilers	...	...	3
Tallow Melters	...	...	8	Gut or Tripe Cleaners	...	...	4
Skinners or Hide Factors	...	...	5	Blood Boiler	...	...	1
Knackers	...	...	2	Soap Boiler	...	...	1
Fish Oil Manufacturers	...	...	3	Manufacture of Albuminoid			
Manure Manufacturers	...	...	5	Substance from Fish	...	...	1
Fish Meal Manufacturer	...	...	1				

Total, 40.

Applications under Section 32 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897.

The only application received during the year was in connection with a proposed extension of the fish oil factory in Albert Quay belonging to Messrs. Allen & Hanbury, Ltd.

This business was established on its present site in 1923, and in 1925 the Local Authority sanctioned an extension of the premises. The extension was, however, not carried out. The application under review related to the provision of (a) an office; (b) premises for refining the oil by means of a cold process, and (c) storage accommodation. The application was sanctioned on condition that:—

- (1) The additional premises are used solely for the respective purposes specified in the plans, and that no part of the extension is to be used for manufacturing fish oil; and
- (2) The Company undertake to discontinue carrying on the business of manufacturing or refining fish oils within the premises if and when required by the Town Council so to do, in the event of the business being so conducted as, in the opinion of the Local Authority to cause a nuisance.

As stated in my previous report, the Town Council on 1st April, 1929, sanctioned an application, dated 5th December, 1928, by Fisadco Ltd., to establish the business of the manufacture of fish meal, fish powders and fish glue, in premises proposed to be erected on the north side of North Esplanade West. An appeal against the Council's decision was intimated but was subsequently withdrawn. No commencement has, however, yet been made to erect the premises, and it is understood that the proposal has been departed from.

The premises in which offensive trades are carried on are visited frequently—some of them daily—and the total number of inspections, exclusive of slaughter-houses, was 2,084.

Nineteen complaints were received during the year regarding alleged offensive smells from one or other of the premises in which an "offensive business" is carried on. The majority of these complaints referred to one or other of the three fish oil works. By arrangement with the Chief Constable, any offensive smells observed by the Police are immediately reported to the Public Health Department. Seven of the afore-mentioned complaints were received from the Police, and referred to smells observed in the early hours of the morning. All these complaints were immediately investigated, and, where necessary, letters of warning were sent to the proprietors.

The fish meal factory in Palmerston Road was visited daily. On one occasion smells emanating from this factory were observed at a distance of about 200 yards. It is very seldom within recent years that smells have been observed at so great a distance from this factory. The Manager was communicated with.

On only one occasion during the year were smells observed which might have emanated from the Cove Manure Works.

Knackery at Linksfeld.

On 10th June, a communication was received from the Department of Health to the effect that there was a possibility of nuisance to the occupiers of the houses

in course of erection on the School Road Site, and that accordingly the Department would be glad to be furnished with a report by the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector, and with the observations of the Local Authority on the matter.

In their report the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector stated, *inter alia*, that :—

“The apparatus used at Linksfeld for bone boiling and tallow melting is antiquated, and the means adopted to prevent the escape of offensive effluvia are inadequate. It has for several years been the considered opinion of the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector, that on account of the proximity of the knackery to the Beach, it was not desirable to compel the occupant to instal modern plant, as the most satisfactory method of dealing with the nuisance was to have the premises removed to a more suitable site.

“Within the last two years the Town Council have acquired two housing sites—Pittodrie and School Road—in the near vicinity of the Linksfeld Manure Works. There will accordingly in the near future be 600 dwelling-houses erected on these sites. As the Town Council have recently acquired the premises used as a Knackery and Manure Works, and as these premises are let on a yearly tenancy, we are of opinion that the Town Council should take into serious consideration whether, looking to the new developments in the vicinity, the present tenancy of the premises should be continued.”

Following upon this report, the Council gave notice of their intention to terminate the tenancy, and the premises will accordingly be vacated on 28th May.

PIG-STYES.

At the end of 1929, there were 53 pig-styes on the register, 6 of these having been licensed under the “additional bye-laws” made by the Town Council in 1916. The number on the register in the previous year was 54. To these pig-styes 112 visits were made in the course of the year, in order to ensure that they were being kept in conformity with the bye-laws.

Details of the work done are given in Appendix II. (D).

WORKSHOPS (EXCLUDING BAKEHOUSES).

The number of workshops (excluding bakehouses) on the register at the end of 1928 was 732. During the year, there were 41 added, 28 closed, and 18 converted into factories by the introduction of motive power. The number, therefore, at the end of 1929, was 727.

There were 2,481 visits made, and 258 notices were issued with reference to sanitary requirements in connection with these premises.

Five notices were received under Section 5 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, which requires that the Factory Inspector shall give intimation to the Local Authority of any sanitary defect in a factory or workshop remediable

under the Public Health Act. These notices dealt with want of cleanliness and overcrowding. The required work was in every case duly carried out.

Two notices were also received under Section 9 of the Act and the Sanitary Accommodation Order, 1903. These notices dealt with the want of an intervening ventilated space between a workroom and a w.c., and the defective condition of a sanitary convenience. The duty of enforcing notices under this Section of the Act rests with the Factory Department, but the Local Authority are notified in order that they may have the opportunity of enforcing, at the same time, any additional conditions under the Public Health Act which they think desirable.

Forty notices of Occupation were also received from the Factory Inspector.

As required by Section 107 of the Act, the occupiers of all factories or workshops employing outworkers sent lists of these to the Department twice during the year. Altogether 14 lists were received, embracing 77 outworkers. The homes of all the local outworkers were visited. One local outworker was resident outwith the City, and her name and address was sent to the official of the district in which she resides.

Inspection of Plans.

The plans of 31 premises—mainly premises in which foodstuffs were manufactured or sold—were reported on by the Medical Officer of Health and myself, and recommendations made and agreed to. These recommendations chiefly referred to the lighting and ventilation, the situation of the w.c. apartments, and the provision of w.c.s., wash-hand basins, or sinks.

BAKEHOUSES.

There were at the end of the year 75 bakehouses in the City, 42 being classed as factories and 33 as workshops. This is a decrease of 2 as compared with the previous year.

In connection with these, 336 visits were paid. Details of the work done are given in Appendix II. (F).

As stated in previous reports, there has within recent years been a marked improvement in the conditions under which such articles as liquid eggs, butter, margarine, milk and similar articles are stored. Generally speaking, little fault can now be found as regards the cleanliness of baking tables, benches, troughs, machines, appliances, utensils and receptacles. Difficulty is, however, experienced in maintaining a proper standard of cleanliness in some of the older bakehouses on account of the worn-out condition of the structure.

BAKEHOUSE WELFARE ORDER, 1927.

By arrangement with the Factory Inspector, assistance is given by the sanitary staff in seeing that the provisions of the above Order are complied with.

(a) *Washing Facilities.*

All baking premises are now provided with suitable washing facilities in the form of sinks or teak-wood tubs; while in addition a number of the bakehouses are also provided with wash-hand basins.

The Order requires that, if a constant supply of warm water is not laid on, a sufficient supply of warm water must always be at hand when required for use by the persons employed, and in addition, a sufficient supply of soap and clean towels must be provided.

All the larger bakehouses have hot-water installations, or hot water automatic filling tanks—the latter having taps fitted thereto.

In 31 bakehouses a constant supply of warm water is not laid on to the sinks, but this is readily obtained by means of gas rings.

All the bakehouses are kept supplied with soap or suitable cleansing powders; and also with towels or pieces of clean sacking.

(b) *Suitable Accommodation for Clothing.*

The majority of the bakehouses are provided with cloakroom accommodation. In some cases, however, it is impossible, on account of lack of space, to provide cloakrooms. In such cases the provision of small clothes chests, in the form of wardrobes, is recommended, and during the year 10 additional bakehouses have been provided with such chests.

(c) *Cautionary Notices as to the Prevention and Cure of Dermatitis.*

Care is taken to ensure that the display of the requisite notices is being maintained. It has been observed, however, that these notices get mislaid or damaged when the walls are being cleaned, and it has accordingly been suggested to bakers that it would be of distinct advantage to have the notices affixed to cardboard or suitable stiff material. It would also be of advantage to have the notices affixed in cloakrooms or lavatories. These suggestions have been given effect to by a number of bakers.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS AND RELATIVE ORDERS AND REGULATIONS.

At the end of the year, there were 626 persons registered to sell milk. Undernoted are particulars:—

(a) Cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	15
(b) Retailers of milk	...	...	...	...	281
(c) Retailers of milk for consumption on premises only	...	...	...	...	46
(d) Country farmers retailing milk from carts	...	...	...	...	69
(e) Retailers of ice cream	...	...	...	...	203
(f) Retailers of ice cream for consumption on premises only	...	...	...	...	12
Total					626

This is a decrease of one, as compared with the previous year.

Prior to the new bye-laws coming into operation "loose milk" was sold in general provision shops under conditions which were far from satisfactory. At the close of last year there were 203 milk shops in which the only milk or cream sold is milk or cream supplied only in the properly closed and unopened receptacles in which it was delivered to the shop. There are, therefore, only 78 shops, apart from the shops in which milk is sold for consumption on the premises only, in which "loose milk" is being sold.

During the year, letters of warning were sent to six dairymen for selling "loose" milk in shops which were not suitable for the purpose. Letters of warning were also sent to thirteen dairymen for opening milk bottles in shops where the only milk which can be sold is milk supplied in the properly closed and unopened receptacles in which it was delivered.

A dairyman was discovered using as a dwelling and sleeping apartment a room directly communicating with a milk shop. Proceedings were instituted and a fine of 20s. imposed.

The recommendations made by the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector regarding the nature and quantity of articles which can be kept in a "loose" milk shop and also regarding the nature of any trade or business carried on in such shop, are generally, being loyally adhered to.

A large number of retailers of ice cream have now ceased to manufacture ice cream on their premises, and in lieu thereof, are purchasing the ice cream from manufacturers who have suitable premises and proper appliances for the manufacture thereof. This marks a great advance, as a number of shops in which ice cream was previously manufactured could not be regarded as satisfactory for the purpose. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the number of shopkeepers who sell only ice cream delivered to them in containers or other receptacles will steadily increase.

All the dairies, milkshops, and ice cream shops are regularly visited by one of the assistant inspectors, and the number of such visits during the year was 2,186.

Details of the work done are given in Appendix II. (G).

The number of cowsheds at the end of the year was 15. This is a decrease of one as compared with the previous year. The herds are regularly examined by the Veterinary Inspector, who is also responsible for the sanitary condition of the premises.

Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Order, 1925.

In a circular issued to all Local Authorities on 27th December, 1929, the Sanitary Inspector was directed to include in his Annual Report a statement of the extent to which Articles V, to XVI. of the above-mentioned Order were being complied with,

Articles V. to X. deal with the provisions against infection or contamination. No contraventions of Articles V., VI., VII., VIII., and X. were discovered.

On ten occasions it was found that dairymen were not strictly complying with the requirements of Article IX., which requires that every dairyman shall cause every vessel containing milk to be properly covered, or shall cause the milk contained in any such vessel to be otherwise effectively protected from dust, dirt, flies, and other sources of contamination. Warnings were given.

Article XI. enacts that "no person shall add any colouring or thickening matter to cream, and no person shall sell cream to which any colouring or thickening matter has been added." A similar provision regarding colouring matter in milk is contained in the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922.

All the samples of milk and cream analysed by the Public Analyst are examined for the presence of colouring matter. None of the samples were found to contain colouring matter.

Articles XII. to XVI. deal with provisions as to vessels and conveyance of milk. No contraventions of Articles XIII., XIV., and XVI. were discovered.

Article XII. requires that "no dairyman shall use any vessel that belongs to any other person for the collection of milk from, or delivery of milk to, any person other than the owner of the vessel, or keep in his possession such vessel, except in either case with the consent of the owner of the vessel."

The requirements of this Article are, so far as is known, being generally complied with. During the year letters of warning were sent to seven dairymen who were found using one or two bottles belonging to other dairymen. It was found necessary in one case to institute proceedings against a dairy farmer who had been previously convicted. On this occasion a fine of Fifty Shillings was imposed.

Article XV. requires that vessels containing milk for transit must be sealed by means of a leaden seal or locked. This requirement is being strictly complied with. On only 16 occasions was it found necessary to communicate with dairymen, and in each case the dairyman had been in the habit of properly fastening his cans, but on the occasion referred to he had temporarily run short of seals.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923.

During the year, one additional licence was granted to a retailer to sell "certified" milk, and one retailer did not make application for renewal of his licence. At the end of the year, there were, therefore, ten retailers licensed to sell "certified" milk.

A licence was granted to the Northern Co-operative Society, Limited, to pasteurise milk in their premises at Berryden, and to sell "pasteurised" milk in 32 of their branch shops. No licences were granted during the year for any of the other grades specified in the Order.

Samples were procured weekly from the retailers of "certified" and "pasteurised" milk and analysed by the Public Analyst.

Undernoted is a summary of the results :—

A.—Certified Milk.

Month.	No. of Samples.	Fat. Average %	Other Solids. Average %	Month.	No. of Samples.	Fat. Average %	Other Solids. Average %
January	... 9	3·85	8·99	July	... 4	4·33	9·33
February	... 8	3·99	9·13	August	... 4	4·20	8·95
March	... 6	3·86	9·13	September	... 4	4·32	9·06
April	... 8	3·83	9·10	October	... 6	3·86	9·09
May	... 9	3·72	9·06	November	... 4	3·96	9·22
June	... 5	3·76	9·08	December	... 5	4·10	9·12

Total No., 72. Fat—Average %, 3·94 ; Other Solids—Average %, 9·10.

Only two of the samples contained less than 3·5 per cent. Fat. One of these samples was procured in May and the other in June.

B.—Pasteurised Milk.

Month.	No. of Samples.	Fat. Average %	Other Solids. Average %	Month.	No. of Samples.	Fat. Average %	Other Solids. Average %
February	... 4	3·33	9·05	August	... 5	3·64	8·75
March	... 9	3·37	8·97	September	... 4	3·61	8·79
April	... 4	3·30	8·98	October	... 3	3·47	8·92
May	... 5	3·50	8·96	November	... 4	3·33	8·97
June	... 4	3·68	8·99	December	... 4	3·42	9·00
July	... 1	3·50	Not ascertained.				

Total No., 47. Fat—Average %, 3·46 ; Other Solids—Average %, 8·94.

All the samples were also examined by the City Bacteriologist. The results of these examinations are given in the Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report.

SHOPS WHERE FOODSTUFFS ARE SOLD.

Under a local Act, every occupier of any premises used for the sale of any article of food, who does not keep the same clean and in good condition, is liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty shillings

Altogether, 1,153 shops were inspected during the year, and, in 258 cases, the occupiers were communicated with regarding the condition of their shops. Details of the work done are given in Appendix II. (H).

The following table gives particulars as to the shops visited :—

Class of Shop.			Number Inspected.	Found Satisfactory.	Found Unsatisfactory.	No. of Defects dealt with.
Bakers	...	...	111	92	19	30
Butchers	...	...	152	99	53	89
Chemists	...	...	33	28	5	8
Confectioners	...	...	44	30	14	26
Fishmongers	...	...	43	30	13	28
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	61	30	31	65
Fruiterers	...	...	69	57	12	14
Greengrocers	...	...	10	10	0	0
Grocers	...	...	198	160	38	66
Grain Merchants	...	...	4	4	0	0
Public Houses	...	...	15	13	2	2
Restaurants	...	...	135	113	22	35
Mixed Shops	...	...	278	229	49	69
			1,153	895	258	432

PLACES OF PUBLIC REFRESHMENT.

The following table shows the various classes of shops on the register at the end of 1929 :—

Description of Shop.						Number.
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	69
Fried Fish	...	...	...	...	...	25
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	91
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	11
Temperance Hotels	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	1
						202

This is a decrease of 6 as compared with the previous year.

All these premises were visited from time to time in order to see that the bye-laws for regulating the internal construction, lighting, and arrangement of premises, with a view to the orderly conduct and control thereof, are being complied with.

Prosecutions for contraventions of the bye-laws for regulating the hours of opening and closing are instituted by the Police.

UN SOUND FOOD.

The total quantity of food seized or destroyed during the year 1929 was the same as in the preceding year, namely, 151 tons.

All the meat seized in the slaughter-houses is examined by one of the Meat Inspectors—the Medical Officer of Health and the Veterinary Inspector—appointed under the Public Health (Meat Inspection) Regulations (Scotland).

The total number of visits made by the Sanitary Inspector's staff to the various places where foodstuffs are sold was 9,909. Of these, 3,312 were made to slaughter-houses, 1,743 to meat marts, 1,143 to fish-curing premises, 302 to the Fish Market, 260 to the New Market Hall, 240 to shipping sheds, 276 to provision-curing works, 152 to wholesale warehouses, 141 to street markets, and 2,340 to other premises, including all the offal and tallow marts.

The quantity of fish landed during the year was 2,251,696 cwts. Of this quantity, 1,577,247 cwts. were landed by British fishing vessels, and 674,449 cwts. by foreign vessels. The quantity of fish landed in the previous year was 2,286,834 cwts. The quantity destroyed as unfit for human food was 43,686 lbs., as compared with 67,764 lbs. in the previous year.

There were altogether 1,135 seizures. The majority of the seizures was made in the slaughter-houses, while 160 were made in the meat marts, 109 in warehouses and shops, 62 in offal markets, 4 in the Fish Market, 2 in cold stores, and 3 in curing works.

Tinned Foods.

Considerable attention continues to be paid to the inspection of tinned foods. All factories where such articles are prepared are regularly visited.

Wholesale warehouses and shops are also visited, and, in these, 99 lots of tinned foods, comprising beef, mutton, tongue, ham, salmon, fruit, milk, soups, and tomato puree were dealt with as being unfit for human food.

The Public Health (Unsound Food) Regulations (Scotland), 1925.

One consignment consisting of 49 cases of fresh fish from Iceland was seized as being unfit for food. The weight was 85 cwts.

The Public Health (Oversea Meat) Regulations (Scotland), 1925.

The only meat within the meaning of these Regulations landed in the port during the year consisted of consignments of lard and tinned tongue from New York, mutton fat from Uruguay, and smoked sausage from Hamburg. All the consignments were in a satisfactory condition.

Prosecutions.

A detailed statement of the meat seized during each month of the year, as also a comparative statement of past years, will be found in Appendix III.

Meat Stores.

Two certificates for meat stores were granted during the year.

Cold Stores.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 13 of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, Act, four cold stores are registered. These premises were regularly visited.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

Undernoted are particulars as to the samples procured in accordance with the Act:—

ARTICLES.	No. of SAMPLES PROCURED.			NUMBER NOT GENUINE			Number of Prosecutions	Number Successful	Amount of Fines Imposed
	Formal	In-formal	TOTAL	Formal	In-formal	TOTAL			
Sweet Milk	357	249	606	9	20	29	4	4	£9 16 0
Skimmed Milk,	18	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Condensed Milk,	0	24	24	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Dried Milk,	0	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Cream,	17	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Double Cream,	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Ice-Cream,	28	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Butter,	1	41	42	0	1	1	0	0	.....
Margarine,	0	53	53	0	4	4	0	0	.....
Cheese,	0	21	21	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Jams,	0	18	18	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Jellies,	0	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Honey,	0	15	15	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Syrup,	0	11	11	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Treacle,	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Cream Cakes, Buns, &c.,	0	33	33	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Ham,	0	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Bacon,	0	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Mince,	6	100	106	3	7	10	2	2	2 5 0
Beef Sausages,	11	82	93	4	9	13	4	4	4 15 0
Pork Sausages,	1	5	6	1	0	1	1	1	1 5 0
Tinned Peas,	0	31	31	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Dried Peas,	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Tinned Meat,	0	21	21	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Tinned Fish,	0	29	29	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Smoked Fish,	0	16	16	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Cocoa,	0	11	11	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Coffee Essence,	0	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Apples,	0	15	15	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Oranges,	0	15	15	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Dried Fruit,	0	24	24	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Black Pepper,	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	.....
White Pepper,	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Ground Cinnamon,	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Pickles,	0	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Aerated Waters,	0	15	15	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Fruit Wines,	0	18	18	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Beer,	0	19	19	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Stout,	0	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Cyder,	0	18	18	0	5	5	0	0	.....
Whisky,	3	17	20	1	2	3	1	1	2 0 0
Brandy,	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Gin,	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Rum,	3	16	19	1	1	2	1	1	2 0 0
Drugs,	0	26	26	0	2	2	0	0	.....
TOTALS,	452	1018	1470	19	51	70	13	13	£22 1 0

In addition to the above, 20 unofficial samples of sweet milk were procured at byres or in course of transit.

The total number of samples analysed was, therefore, 1,490, as compared with 1,489 in the previous year, and 1,443 in 1927.

The following tables give particulars as to the number of official samples of sweet milk procured since 1914, the year in which was commenced the system of "following up" all deficient samples of milk, *i.e.*, in the case of a retailer selling deficient milk, of taking a sample in the course of delivery from the consigner to the consignee; and, in the case of a producer, of visiting the byre at the earliest possible date and procuring a sample of the corresponding milk from the cows.

TABLE I,
Giving number of Official Samples procured and showing the number deficient in Fat, Solids other than Fat, and in both Fat and other Solids.

YEAR.	Number of Samples	Number deficient in Fat	Number deficient in Solids other than Fat	Number deficient in both Fat and other Solids	Total Number deficient	Percentage deficient	Number of Prosecutions
1914, . . .	123	21	2	1	24	19.5	21
1915, . . .	207	21	6	5	32	15.6	25
1916, . . .	266	35	4	6	45	17.8	36
1917, . . .	252	36	12	3	51	20.2	37
1918, . . .	240	15	3	1	19	7.9	9
1919, . . .	262	25	3	3	31	11.8	22
1920, . . .	272	10	1	2	13	4.8	6
1921, . . .	431	18	7	2	27	6.3	15
1922, . . .	445	22	3	0	25	5.6	14
1923, . . .	463	15	3	4	22	4.8	9
1924, . . .	536	19	6	2	27	5.0	20
1925, . . .	524	24	2	2	28	5.3	21
1926, . . .	472	20	1	0	21	4.4	11
1927, . . .	437	10	2	0	12	2.7	3
1928, . . .	404	7	3	0	10	2.5	3
1929, . . .	357	7	0	2	9	2.5	4
TOTALS, .	5,691	305	58	33	396	7.0	256

It will be observed that the total number of official samples of sweet milk procured during 1929 was 357, of which 9, or 2.5 per cent. were found to be under the standard. In the previous year the corresponding number of samples procured was 404, of which 10, or 2.5 per cent. were under the standard.

The percentage (2.5) of deficient samples is the lowest reached during the period 1914-29. The corresponding average percentage during the period was 7.0. In the quinquennial period 1914-18, the average percentage of deficient samples was 16.2; in 1919-23 it was 6.7, while in 1924-28 it was 4.1. During each of the last two years the corresponding percentage has, as already stated, been 2.5. It will be seen, therefore, that within later years there has been a considerable improvement in the chemical quality of the milk as supplied in the City,

and that the percentage of deficient samples during later years compares favourably with the corresponding percentages in any of the larger cities in the kingdom.

As has been stated in previous reports, it is gratifying to observe that again, as far as could be ascertained, the deficiency in fat or solids other than fat, in the majority of the cases, was not due to wilful tampering with the milk. Of the 9 deficient samples it was found that in one case a mixed sample of the "morning" milk of the whole herd (8 cows) was under the standard. No proceedings were instituted in this case.

TABLE II.,

Giving number of Official Samples procured from Producers, as compared with the number procured from Retailers or Wholesalers. In each case, the Samples found deficient at the byre, or in course of delivery to the Retailer or Wholesaler, are excluded.

YEAR	Number of Samples procured from Producers	Number deficient	Percentage deficient	Number of Samples procured from Retailers or Wholesalers	Number deficient	Percentage deficient
1914, .	60	13	21.7	63	8	12.7
1915, . .	115	15	13.0	92	12	13.0
1916, . .	122	22	18.0	144	15	10.4
1917, . .	143	32	22.4	109	9	8.3
1918, . .	104	5	4.8	136	9	6.6
1919, . .	143	13	9.1	119	9	7.6
1920, . .	132	4	3.0	140	5	3.6
1921, . .	240	11	4.6	191	9	4.7
1922, . .	222	8	3.6	223	8	3.6
1923, . .	246	9	3.7	217	6	2.8
1924, . .	260	10	3.8	276	11	4.0
1925, . .	238	12	5.0	286	12	4.2
1926, . .	196	10	5.1	276	5	1.8
1927, . .	184	1	0.5	253	3	1.2
1928, . .	173	3	1.7	231	4	1.7
1929, . .	124	2	1.6	233	6	2.6
TOTALS, .	2,702	170	6.3	2,989	131	4.4

The percentage of producers' samples found deficient in 1929 was 1.6, as compared with a percentage of 2.6 for the samples procured from wholesalers or retailers.

In the preceding year the corresponding percentages were, respectively, 1.7 and 1.7. During the quinquennial period 1914-18, the average percentage of producers' samples found deficient was 16.0, as compared with an average percentage of 3.8 for the period 1919-29. The corresponding percentages for samples procured from wholesalers or retailers were, respectively, 10.2 and 3.2.

TABLE III.,

Giving information as to the Sources from which the Samples were procured.

YEAR	RETAIL SAMPLES FROM SHOPS			RETAIL SAMPLES FROM CARTS			WHOLESALE SAMPLES IN COURSE OF DELIVERY			SAMPLES TAKEN ON DELIVERY AT INSTITUTIONS		
	Samples taken	Found deficient	Per-centage	Samples taken	Found deficient	Per-centage	Samples taken	Found deficient	Per-centage	Samples taken	Found deficient	Per-centage
1914, .	50	8	16.0	35	7	20.0	24	8	33.3	14	1	7.1
1915, .	82	14	17.1	64	4	6.2	38	11	29.0	23	3	13.0
1916, .	118	19	16.1	82	9	11.0	47	16	34.0	19	1	5.3
1917, .	83	11	13.3	54	6	11.1	92	34	37.0	23	0	0.0
1918, .	123	8	6.5	66	7	10.6	49	4	8.2	2	0	0.0
1919, .	101	14	13.7	36	2	5.5	123	15	12.2	2	0	0.0
1920, .	129	6	4.7	32	2	6.3	111	5	4.5	0	0	0.0
1921, .	166	10	6.0	87	3	3.4	176	14	8.0	2	0	0.0
1922, .	188	10	5.3	86	5	5.8	169	10	5.9	2	0	0.0
1923, .	198	6	3.0	86	3	3.5	176	13	7.4	3	0	0.0
1924, .	209	10	4.8	129	8	6.2	193	9	4.7	5	0	0.0
1925, .	252	16	6.3	105	4	3.8	158	8	5.1	9	0	0.0
1926, .	242	9	3.7	121	5	4.1	107	7	6.5	2	0	0.0
1927, .	210	4	1.9	103	3	2.9	113	5	4.4	11	0	0.0
1928, .	203	6	3.0	125	1	0.8	76	3	4.0	0	0	0.0
1929, .	205	6	3.0	77	2	2.6	75	1	1.3	0	0	0.0
TOTALS, .	2,559	157	6.1	1,288	71	5.5	1,727	163	9.4	117	5	4.3

During the past year, the largest percentage (3.0) of deficient samples was purchased in retail shops. This percentage is exactly the same as in the previous year. During the period 1914-18, the average corresponding percentage was 13.8, as compared with 4.6 for the period 1919-29.

The percentage of deficient samples purchased from retail carts was 2.6, as compared with 0.8 in the previous year. During the period 1914-18, the average corresponding percentage was 11.8, as compared with 3.9 for the period 1919-29.

The percentage of deficient samples procured from wholesale supplies in course of delivery was 1.3, as compared with 4.0 in the previous year. This is the lowest percentage recorded in any year during the period 1914-29. During the quinquennial period, 1914-18, the average was 28.3, while for the period 1919-29, this average has fallen to 6.1. This result is most gratifying because it is obvious that if the retailer does not receive milk which complies with the standards, it is impossible for him to sell milk which complies with these standards.

Undernoted are particulars regarding all the deficient samples of sweet milk procured during the past year :—

A. Retailers' or Wholesalers' Samples.

No.	Complained of Sample		Sample taken on delivery		Remarks
	Fat	Other Solids	Fat	Other Solids	
1	2.10	9.00	3.27	8.83	Warning given.
2	2.70	9.01	3.42	8.86	Warning given.
3	2.90	7.98	3.88	8.82	Warning given.
4	2.89	8.56	3.48	8.73	Warning given.
5	2.22	8.50	3.57	8.67	Penalty £3 3s.
6	2.87	8.93	3.41	8.64	Penalty 10s.

In four of the deficient samples purchased from retailers the milk was said to have been supplied "in the properly closed and unopened receptacles in which it was delivered to the shop." Samples taken from individual bottles in course of delivery to each of the retailers by the wholesale dairymen were found to be above the standard. Full inquiry was made, and there was no reason to believe that the bottles in which the milk was supplied by the retailers had been opened by the retailers or by any other person after leaving the premises of the wholesale dairymen. As the results of experiments carried out in the premises of the wholesale dairymen, it was found, as was to be expected, that if milk is allowed to remain in the filling pan of the bottling machine or in the receiving tank for some time without being thoroughly mixed immediately prior to the bottles being filled, the percentage of fat under such circumstances will be very low, as was proved by the following experiment:—

- | | | |
|---|------|------|
| (1) Mixed sample from 2½ gallons in filling pan of bottling machine taken immediately before machine was stopped | 3.46 | 8.95 |
| (2) Mixed sample from filling pan taken after standing for 1 hour 10 minutes, without stirring | 1.86 | 9.12 |
| (3) Mixed sample from tap of tank, containing about 60 gallons, after standing for 1 hour 10 minutes, without stirring | 2.01 | 9.09 |

No proceedings were instituted against any of the four retailers referred to. In arriving at this decision the Procurator Fiscal and myself were influenced by two recommendations contained in the Report issued some years ago by the Inter-Departmental Committee, viz. :—

- (1) "When the milk of a retailer is found to be under the minimum limit, immediate steps should be taken to obtain a sample or more than one sample from the person supplying him";

- (2) "It should be the producer's duty to see that his milk is properly mixed in order to supply milk that conforms with the minimum limit. Accordingly, each can of milk consigned by a producer should contain milk with butter fat up to the limit."

It might be contended that the latter recommendation applied only to *cans* of milk supplied by *producers*. In each of the cases referred to, the milk was supplied by a wholesale dairyman and the consignments consisted solely of milk supplied in bottles. As, however, no Regulations or Orders following upon these recommendations have yet been made, it might be possible, if the Department of Health for Scotland are of opinion that the time has now come when such recommendations should become law, to draft a Regulation or Order in a manner which would make it applicable to consignments of milk supplied in bottles.

B. Producers' Samples.

No.	Complained of Sample		Sample taken at byre		Remarks
	Fat	Other Solids	Fat	Other Solids	
7	2·83	9·07	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{morning} \\ 2\cdot93 \\ \text{Evening} \\ 3\cdot11 \end{array} \right.$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 8\cdot74 \\ 9\cdot06 \end{array} \right.$	Warning given.
8	2·90	8·62	3·55	8·87	Penalty £3.
9	2·81	8·57	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{morning} \\ 3\cdot27 \\ \text{evening} \\ 3\cdot32 \end{array} \right.$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 8\cdot34 \\ 8\cdot74 \end{array} \right.$	Penalty £3 3s.

In one of the three byres visited a mixed sample of the "morning" milk of the whole herd (8 cows) contained 2·93 per cent. fat and 8·74 per cent. solids other than fat; while a corresponding sample of the "evening" milk contained 3·11 per cent. fat and 9·06 per cent. solids other than fat.

In another of the byres visited, a mixed sample of the "morning" milk of the whole herd (9 cows) contained 3·27 per cent. fat and 8·3½ per cent. solids other than fat; while a corresponding sample of the "evening" milk contained 3·32 per cent. fat and 8·74 per cent. solids other than fat.

On 2nd August, a sample was procured from a consignment of 83 gallons sweet milk in course of delivery to the consignee. This sample contained 3·50 per cent. fat and 8·50 per cent. solids other than fat. The consignment was delivered in nine cans, and as there was reason to believe that the milk in one or more of these cans had been tampered with, samples were taken from the milk in each of the cans. Two of these samples—both of which were taken from cans containing 10 gallons, contained, respectively, 2·25 per cent. fat and 6·48 per cent. solids other than fat, and 2·45 per cent. fat and 6·90 per cent. solids other than fat. As the milk of the entire consignment was not under the standard, proceedings could not be instituted, and there was no justification for visiting

the byre, but the farmer was informed of the results of the analysis of the ten samples. The farmer was further informed that if at any time in future it was found that any of his consignments were under the standard, the byre would be visited in order to obtain information as to the quality of milk yielded by the cows. In a letter received from the farmer he stated that—"There is no doubt as to the milk in the two cans referred to having been tampered with," and suggested that the tampering must have been done by an employee whom he had resolved to dismiss. The farmer asked for an interview, and this was arranged. At the interview the farmer explained the arrangements which he had, *on 8th August*, made in order to prevent further tampering with the milk. In reply to this statement the farmer was informed that on 5th, 6th and 7th August "informal" samples—all of which were reported as genuine, and considerably above the standards both for fat and solids other than fat—had been procured from each of the cans consigned by him. The farmer was further informed that these "informal" samples had been procured after he had been informed of the results on 2nd August, *but before the precautionary measures arranged by him had been adopted*. It was accordingly difficult to believe that the tampering had been done in the manner suggested.

It is of interest to state that the farmer referred to is the farmer who, on 18th April, 1928, supplied a consignment of 28 gallons of milk containing 3·21 per cent. fat and 8·15 per cent. solids other than fat. A plea of "not guilty" was tendered, and evidence was led at considerable length. The accused was found not guilty. Full information regarding this case was given in my Annual Report for 1928.

This case affords still another illustration of the desirability of having the Inter-Departmental Committee's recommendation regarding each can of milk consigned by a producer containing milk, with butter fat up to the limit, being put into operation as soon as possible.

Despite the fact that we have frequently found that the mixed milk of a herd may fall under the standard prescribed by the Sale of Milk Regulations, it is interesting to observe that the average percentages of fat and other solids in all the official samples of sweet milk, including deficient samples, taken in Aberdeen since 1919, are as follows:—

Year.	No. of Samples.	Fat.	Other Solids.
1919 . . .	262 . . .	3·38 . . .	8·95
1920 . . .	272 . . .	3·48 . . .	8·96
1921 . . .	429 . . .	3·50 . . .	8·89
1922 . . .	445 . . .	3·53 . . .	8·91
1923 . . .	462 . . .	3·58 . . .	8·88
1924 . . .	533 . . .	3·55 . . .	8·88
1925 . . .	524 . . .	3·48 . . .	8·92
1926 . . .	472 . . .	3·51 . . .	8·89
1927 . . .	437 . . .	3·56 . . .	8·88
1928 . . .	404 . . .	3·55 . . .	8·87
1929 . . .	357 . . .	3·55 . . .	8·90

No similar information is available for the earlier years.

In calculating these averages, no account was taken of abnormal samples. Accordingly, the undernoted samples were omitted :—

Year.	Fat.	Other Solids.
1921 . . .	17.24	7.76
1921 . . .	8.23	8.69
1923 . . .	8.59	8.09
1924 . . .	7.55	8.51
1924 . . .	7.00	8.72
1924 . . .	6.95	8.50
1926 . . .	6.75	8.50
1927 . . .	7.05	8.50

Informal Samples of Sweet Milk.

The total number of informal samples procured during the year, exclusive of the 20 samples procured at byres or in course of transit between the byre and the City was 249, and of these, 20 were found to be under the standard.

I have again to record my indebtedness to the County Authorities of Aberdeen and Kincardine for their willingness at all times to procure samples from consignments taken delivery of within their districts, which consignments have, as the result of informal samples taken in the City, been found to be under the standard.

Skimmed Milk.

Eighteen official samples of skimmed milk were procured in the course of the year, and all were found to be genuine. The quantity of skimmed milk sold in the City is considerably less than in pre-war years.

Year.	No. of Samples.	No. under Standard.	Percentage under Standard.
1914 . . .	7	0	0.0
1915 . . .	25	0	0.0
1916 . . .	58	11	19.0
1917 . . .	50	2	4.0
1918 . . .	18	1	5.6
1919 . . .	17	2	11.8
1920 . . .	24	1	4.2
1921 . . .	34	0	0.0
1922 . . .	40	0	0.0
1923 . . .	48	0	0.0
1924 . . .	42	0	0.0
1925 . . .	45	0	0.0
1926 . . .	55	0	0.0
1927 . . .	38	2	5.3
1928 . . .	29	0	0.0
1929 . . .	18	0	0.0

Totals .	548	19	3.5
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The average percentages of fat and other solids contained in the samples of skimmed milk procured during the last eleven years were as under :

Year.	No. of Samples	Fat.	Other Solids.
1919 . . .	17	1·71	8·86
1920 . . .	24	1·17	8·91
1921 . . .	34	1·39	8·89
1922 . . .	40	1·21	8·87
1923 . . .	48	1·13	8·92
1924 . . .	42	0·76	9·21
1925 . . .	45	0·93	9·19
1926 . . .	55	0·85	9·20
1927 . . .	38	0·89	9·07
1928 . . .	29	0·73	9·08
1929 . . .	18	0·66	9·13

The greater part of the skimmed milk sold in Aberdeen is "separated." The proportion of "hand-skimmed" milk is steadily decreasing.

Condensed Milk.

Twenty-four "informal" samples were purchased in order to determine whether the requirements of the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations (Scotland), 1923, were being complied with. All the samples were certified to conform with the Regulations.

Undernoted are particulars :—

No.	Nature of Sample	Total Milk Solids	Fat	Calculated Pints	Stated Pints
1	Sweetened Machine Skimmed. . . .	27·15	0·16	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
2	Unsweetened Full Cream,	32·00	9·20	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
3	Sweetened Full Cream,	31·15	9·58	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
4	Unsweetened Full Cream,	31·35	9·01	2	2
5	Sweetened Machine Skimmed. . . .	28·79	0·42	1 $\frac{5}{8}$	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
6	" " " " " " " " " " " "	28·39	0·35	1 $\frac{5}{8}$	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
7	" " " " " " " " " " " "	27·70	0·18	1 $\frac{5}{8}$	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
8	Sweetened Full Cream,	31·65	9·67	1 $\frac{5}{8}$	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
9	Machine Skimmed,	27·89	0·56	2	2
10	Sweetened Machine Skimmed. . . .	28·20	0·29	1 $\frac{5}{8}$	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
11	Sweetened Full Cream,	31·02	9·48	1 $\frac{5}{8}$	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
12	Unsweetened Full Cream,	32·10	9·25	1 $\frac{5}{8}$	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
13	Sweetened Machine Skimmed,	26·56	0·28	1 $\frac{5}{8}$	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
14	" " " " " " " " " " " "	26·79	0·55	1 $\frac{5}{8}$	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
15	Sweetened Full Cream, " " " " " "	32·89	10·60	1 $\frac{5}{8}$	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
16	Unsweetened, Sterilized, Evaporated Milk,	32·95	9·35	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
17	Sweetened Machine Skimmed. . . .	27·45	0·38	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
18	" " " " " " " " " " " "	27·40	0·44	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
19	" " " " " " " " " " " "	26·47	0·36	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
20	Unsweetened, Sterilized, Evaporated Full Cream,	32·36	9·19	3	3
21	Sweetened Machine Skimmed,	27·32	0·47	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
22	" " " " " " " " " " " "	28·07	0·51	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
23	" " " " " " " " " " " "	27·86	1·13	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
24	" " " " " " " " " " " "	27·45	0·75	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$

Dried Milk.

Six "informal" samples were procured in order to determine whether the requirements of the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations (Scotland), 1924, were being complied with. All the samples were certified to conform with the Regulations.

Undernoted are particulars :—

Nature of Sample	Fat	Equivalent Pints	Stated Pints	Carbo-hydrates	Protein
Dried Full Cream,	26·72	4½	4½	...	...
" " " " " " " " " "	26·78	2	2	...	...
*Milk Food, Half Cream. . . .	15·35	...	...	57·53	19·66
Modified Dried Full Cream, . . .	24·75	6½	6½	...	...
" " " " " " " " " "	25·36	2	2	...	...
*New Humanised Milk Food, . . .	19·11	...	...	56·50	19·04

*Modified for medical reasons, and no value for equivalent pints could be given.

Cream.

Twenty-three "official" samples were procured, 17 of these being of "ordinary" cream and 6 of "double" cream.

In view of the recommendations of the Inter-Departmental Committee, viz., that "ordinary" cream should contain 10 per cent. butter fat, and "double" cream 40 per cent. butter fat, the undernoted particulars as to prices and quality are of interest. Half-a-pint of "ordinary" cream was purchased in each case.

Undernoted are particulars :—

ORDINARY CREAM.

No.	Price.	Fat.	Other Solids.	No.	Price.	Fat.	Other Solids.
1.	8d.	23·16	7·15	10.	8d.	31·74	7·46
2.	6d.	23·38	7·90	11.	8d.	12·63	7·81
3.	6d.	18·28	7·73	12.	8d.	20·52	7·34
4.	6d.	20·03	6·59	13.	8d.	23·15	7·16
5.	4d.	13·88	6·11	14.	8d.	26·71	6·69
6.	8d.	24·04	6·16	15.	8d.	24·72	6·83
7.	8d.	23·70	7·47	16.	8d.	25·20	6·80
8.	6d.	20·84	7·72	17.	6d.	19·97	7·24
9.	6d.	16·65	7·36				

It will be observed, as has been noted in previous years, that even when allowance is made for the difference in the price charged, there were glaring anomalies in the percentages of fat contained in the various samples. Thus, in the samples for which 6d. was charged, the percentages of fat ranged from 16·65 to 23·38; while in the samples which cost 8d., the corresponding percentages ranged from 12·63 to 31·74. In one case the price charged for the sample was 4d. The percentage of fat in this sample was 13·88 as compared with 12·63 per cent. fat in one of the samples for which 8d. was charged.

DOUBLE CREAM.

No.	Weight of third part of sample.	Price	Fat.	Other Solids.
1.	2.9 oz.	1/4	50.45	5.07
2.	2.7 oz.	1/2	47.80	4.98
3.	2.7 oz.	1/4	60.09	4.06
4.	3.2 oz.	1/4	55.80	5.80
5.	3.2 oz.	1/4	53.48	4.44
6.	2.6 oz.	1/6	59.34	4.01

It will be observed that all the samples contained considerably more fat than the percentage recommended by the Inter-Departmental Committee.

None of the samples of either "ordinary" or "double" cream contained any preservatives.

Ice Cream.

Twenty-eight "official" samples were analysed and all certified genuine. Undernoted are particulars:—

No.	Price	Weight of third part of sample	Fat	Total Solids	Ash	Deposit
1	6d.	4 ozs.	3.00	19.68	0.57	.....
2	9d.	5 "	3.02	27.06	0.53	.....
3	6d.	4 "	2.89	23.25	0.54	.....
4	9d.	4 "	2.47	26.14	0.62	.....
5	6d.	5 "	1.69	24.76	0.55	.....
6	6d.	5½ "	1.97	24.48	0.57	.....
7	6d.	6½ "	2.41	24.35	0.46	.....
8	6d.	3½ "	3.42	27.18	0.52	.....
9	6d.	3½ "	3.28	24.62	0.54	.....
10	9d.	4½ "	3.00	26.42	0.59	.....
11	1s. 0d.	5 "	8.88	22.62	0.62	.....
12	6d.	3½ "	3.81	22.59	0.71	.....
13	6d.	4 "	3.48	26.31	0.55	.....
14	6d.	8 "	3.09	23.24	0.63	.....
15	6d.	5½ "	2.61	20.17	0.52	.....
16	1s. 0d.	4 "	9.85	22.80	0.92	.....
17	9d.	4½ "	2.51	28.82	0.53	.....
18	1s. 0d.	4 "	2.67	20.88	0.47	Slight brownish deposit
19	6d.	6 "	2.76	23.05	0.58	A fair number of dirty specks
20	9d.	6 "	3.04	24.27	0.61	A fair number of dirty specks
21	6d.	5½ "	3.37	21.30	0.58	.....
22	9d.	4½ "	3.40	27.82	0.56	.....
23	9d.	5 "	3.07	26.08	0.51	.....
24	1s. 3d.	3½ "	20.51	17.89	0.44	.....
25	6d.	5 "	3.44	25.24	0.60	.....
26	9d.	4 "	2.28	27.12	0.49	.....
27	6d.	4 "	3.16	25.94	0.58	.....
28	6d.	7 "	3.37	24.21	0.60	.....

The percentages of fat were higher than in previous years. In only two cases was the percentage less than 2 per cent. In 8 cases the percentage was more than 2 but less than 3 per cent.; while in the remaining 18 cases the percentage was 3 per cent. or upwards.

In one case the percentage of fat was 20·51; while in two cases the percentages were, respectively, 8·88 and 9·85.

It was found that, as has been our experience in previous years, there are several anomalies regarding the quantity supplied and the price charged. For example, the samples which contained 1·69 per cent. and 1·97 per cent. milk fat weighed, respectively, 15 and 16½ ounces; while samples which weighed, respectively, 24, 21, 19½, 16½, 16½ and 15 ounces, contained 3·09, 3·37, 2·41, 3·37, 2·61 and 3·44 per cent. milk fat. The price charged for each of these samples was 6d. Eight of the samples cost 9d. One of these samples weighed 18 ounces, and contained 3·04 per cent. fat; while another weighed 12 ounces and contained only 2·28 per cent. fat. Three of the samples cost 1/-. One weighed 15 ounces and contained 8·88 per cent. fat, another weighed 12 ounces and contained 9·85 per cent. fat, while the remaining sample also weighed 12 ounces but contained only 2·67 per cent. fat. The sample which contained 20·51 per cent. fat weighed 10½ ounces and cost 1/3.

The sellers of the samples which contained a deposit were communicated with.

Butter.

One "official" sample and 41 "informal" samples were purchased. One of the "informal" samples contained 16·30 per cent. moisture, but the "official" sample subsequently procured was genuine.

None of the samples contained preservative.

Margarine.

Fifty-three "informal" samples were purchased. Three of the samples contained, respectively, 16·10, 17·08 and 17·20 per cent. moisture, while one sample contained fully 10 per cent. butter fat. The sellers of each of these samples were warned, and samples subsequently procured were found genuine.

In 23 cases it was found that the requirements of the Act as regards labelling and wrapping were not strictly complied with, and an excerpt of the Act giving full particulars as regards these requirements was sent to all offenders.

None of the samples contained preservative.

Cheese.

Twenty-one "informal" samples were analysed, and all certified genuine.

Undernoted are particulars:—

No.	Milk Fat.	No.	Milk Fat.	No.	Milk Fat.
1.	40·00 ...	8.	36·52 ...	15.	41·01
2.	41·38 ...	9.	37·60 ...	16.	36·46
3.	31·57 ...	10.	37·70 ...	17.	2·46
4.	30·39 ...	11.	40·28 ...	18.	39·34
5.	36·32 ...	12.	40·88 ...	19.	41·92
6.	36·11 ...	13.	43·54 ...	20.	35·69
7.	29·40 ...	14.	41·67 ...	21.	31·03

No foreign fat or preservative was found in any of the samples.

It will be observed that the percentages of fat ranged from 2·46 to 43·54. The price charged for the sample containing the lowest percentage of fat was 4½d. per ½ lb. ; while the price charged for the sample containing the highest percentage was 7d. per ½ lb.

Jams and Jellies.

Twenty-six "informal" samples were analysed, and all certified to contain no sulphur dioxide. The maximum quantity permissible is 40 parts per million. No glucose was found in any of the samples.

Honey.

Fifteen "informal" samples were analysed and all certified genuine.

Syrup and Treacle.

Eleven "informal" samples of syrup and two of treacle were analysed. Three of the samples of syrup contained no sulphur dioxide, while the quantities found in the remaining 8 samples ranged from 8 to 422 parts per million.

One of the samples of treacle contained no sulphur dioxide; while the quantity found in the remaining sample was 13 parts per million.

The maximum permissible quantity of sulphur dioxide is 70 parts per million for sugar cane syrup, and 450 parts per million for liquid glucose syrup.

Cream Cakes, Buns, &c.

Thirty-three "informal" samples were analysed, and all were certified to contain no preservative.

Ham and Bacon.

Seven "informal" samples of ham and six of bacon were analysed. All were certified to contain neither boric acid nor sulphur dioxide.

Mince.

One hundred "informal" samples were analysed, and of these 7 were found to contravene the requirements of the Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations. The only preservative permissible in mince is sulphur dioxide in the proportion of 450 parts per million, and the preservative can only be used during the months of June, July, August and September. Official samples were subsequently procured from the sellers of the non-genuine samples, when three contraventions were discovered. Proceedings were instituted in two of these cases and penalties of 20/- and 25/- were imposed. In the remaining case it was considered sufficient to send a letter of warning.

Sausages.

Eighty-two "informal" samples of beef, and 5 of pork, sausages were analysed, when it was found that 9 of the samples of beef sausages contained an

excess of sulphur dioxide. Of the 12 "official" samples subsequently purchased, 5 were found to contain an excess of sulphur dioxide, and in each case penalties ranging from 20/- to 30/- were imposed.

Tinned and Dried Peas.

Thirty-one "informal" samples of tinned, and one sample of dried, peas were analysed. All were certified to contain no copper.

Tinned Meat and Tinned Fish.

Twenty-one "informal" samples of tinned meat and 29 "informal" samples of tinned fish were analysed. None of the samples contained any preservative.

On the first occasion on which samples of tinned meat were purchased it was found that one of the samples contained 13.0 grains of tin per lb. The tin in question was a very old one. The seller of this sample was communicated with, when it was arranged to analyse six samples from the same consignment. The quantities of tin found in these samples ranged from 1.95 to 6.11 grains per lb. The merchant accordingly agreed to destroy all the tins of this brand.

Smoked Fish.

Sixteen "informal" samples were procured and all certified to contain no sulphur dioxide.

Cocoa.

Eleven "informal" samples were analysed, and all certified genuine. The samples were all examined for traces of arsenic, but none were found.

Coffee Essence.

Ten "informal" samples were analysed, and all were certified to be free from preservative.

The only permissible preservative is benzoic acid in the proportion of 450 parts per million.

Apples.

Fifteen "informal" samples were analysed. With two exceptions, all the samples contained traces of arsenic, the quantities ranging from .01 to .40 parts per million. In connection with the sample which contained the largest quantity of arsenic, the Analyst stated that it would require $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of entire apples to be equivalent to the minimum medicinal dose.

Oranges.

Fifteen "informal" samples were analysed, and certified to be genuine. All the samples contained boric, the quantities ranging from a trace to 10 parts per million. The Analyst reported that these amounts were well within natural limits.

Black and White Pepper.

Four "informal" samples of black, and five "informal" of white, pepper were analysed. One of the samples of white pepper contained 6.22 per cent. fibre, while one of the samples of black pepper contained 18.81 per cent. fibre. There is no maximum standard of fibre in this country, but it might be held that the afore-mentioned percentages are excessive. The manufacturers were communicated with.

Ground Cinnamon.

Two "informal" samples were analysed and certified genuine.

Pickles.

Fourteen "informal" samples were analysed, and all were certified to be free from preservative.

The only preservative permissible in pickles is benzoic acid in the proportion of 450 parts per million.

Aerated Waters.

Fifteen "informal" samples of aerated waters were analysed. Six of these contained no preservative, while benzoic acid, in quantities ranging from 40 to 103 parts per million were found in 8 samples. In the remaining sample 13 parts per million of sulphur dioxide were found.

The permissible preservatives in sweetened mineral waters are either sulphur dioxide in the proportion of 70 parts per million, or benzoic acid in the proportion of 100 parts per million. For brewed ginger beer the permissible preservative is benzoic acid in the proportion of 120 parts per million.

All the samples were certified to be free from lead.

Fruit Wines and Essences.

Eighteen "informal" samples were analysed. Two samples of wine essence contained no preservative. Of the remaining sixteen samples, three contained sulphur dioxide—the percentages being, respectively, 74, 216 and 250 parts per million; while thirteen contained benzoic acid, the percentages being, respectively, 344, 356, 364, 369, 392, 403, 404, 435, 436, 446, 453, 479 and 594.

The permissible preservatives are either sulphur dioxide in proportions not exceeding 350 parts per million, or benzoic acid in proportions not exceeding 600 parts per million.

Beer and Stout.

Nineteen "informal" samples of beer and eight of stout were analysed. All were certified to comply with the Regulations. One of the samples of beer contained no sulphur dioxide. The percentages in the remaining 26 samples ranged from 6 to 48 parts per million,

The only permissible preservative is sulphur dioxide in the proportion of 70 parts per million.

Cyder.

Sixteen "informal" samples of cyder were analysed. Five of these samples were certified not to comply with the Regulations, the quantities of sulphur dioxide being, respectively, 217, 220, 227, 229 and 328 parts per million. These samples were all manufactured by the same firm. The only preservative permissible in cyder is sulphur dioxide in the proportion of 200 parts per million.

The firm supplying the defective samples was communicated with, when they decided to withdraw immediately all the cyder in the hands of their Aberdeen customers. The explanation they gave as to the excess of preservative found in the samples was that the consignments to Aberdeen were sent by steamer, and their experience had been that owing to the heat in the steamer it had been found necessary to add a little extra preservative. The firm had never previously been challenged about the amount of preservative in their cyder, and consequently were unaware that there was any risk of their contravening the Regulations.

After stocks had been replaced, two samples were procured and found to contain, respectively, 89 and 156 parts sulphur dioxide per million.

Spirits.

Seven "official" samples—3 of whisky, 3 of rum, and 1 of gin; and 25 "informal" samples—17 of whisky, 6 of rum, 1 of brandy, and 1 of gin were analysed.

An "official" sample of rum was certified to be 38·68 degrees under proof. Legal proceedings were instituted and a fine of 40/- imposed.

An "official" sample of whisky, which was sold from a cask to which there was attached a notice to the effect that the whisky was reduced to 40 degrees under proof, was certified to be 41·13 degrees under proof. A fine of 40/- was imposed.

Drugs.

Twenty-six "informal" samples of drugs, viz. :—2 of Iron Pills, 2 Easton's Syrup, 2 Zinc Ointment, 2 Gregory's Powder, 2 Calcined Magnesia, 2 Mercury Ointment, 2 Blue Pills, 2 Rhubarb Pills, 2 Fluid Magnesia, 2 Castor Oil, 2 Olive Oil, 2 Sweet Spirits of Nitre and 2 Linseed Meal were procured. Twenty-four of the samples were certified to be genuine.

A sample of Mercury Ointment contained only 10 per cent. of mercury, and the Analyst stated that it was apparently the diluted Blue Ointment of the British Pharmaceutical Codex. A letter of warning was sent to the seller.

A sample of Sweet Spirits of Nitre gave only 3·42 volume of gas when treated in the prescribed manner, and the Analyst stated that the minimum is 4 volumes of gas from 1 volume of liquid. A letter of warning was also sent in this case.

ARTIFICIAL CREAM ACT, 1929.

This Act, which came into operation on 1st June last, regulates the sale and manufacture of artificial cream, and enacts that such cream shall not be manufactured, sold or exposed or kept for sale for human consumption, except at premises registered with the Food and Drugs Authority. This requirement does not apply:—

- (a) To the manufacture of artificial cream by any person solely for his domestic purposes; or
- (b) To the manufacture on any premises of artificial cream for use in the preparation on those premises of some other article of food; or
- (c) To the sale, exposure or keeping for sale of artificial cream on any premises where it is not supplied otherwise than in the properly closed and unopened receptacles in which it was delivered to those premises.

Every receptacle containing artificial cream shall have the words “artificial cream” printed in large and legible type either on the receptacle itself or on a label securely attached thereto. A circular containing full information regarding the requirements of the Act was sent to all dairy farmers and dairymen in the City.

So far as is known no artificial cream has been manufactured or sold in the City since the Act came into operation.

THE SALE OF FOOD ORDER, 1921.

The number of inspections made in connection with this Order, which deals with the labelling of imported meat and imported eggs, was 521. Of these, 139 visits were paid to shops where butcher meat was sold, and 382 visits paid to shops where eggs were sold. In only two shops was imported meat exposed for sale. No contravention of the Order was discovered.

THE MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926,

AND

THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE (GRADING AND MARKING) ACT, 1928.

Under Section 9 of the Merchandise Marks Act, 1926, the Town Council appointed the Sanitary Inspector and a number of his assistants to administer the Acts and any Orders made thereunder, so far as relates to foodstuffs. The same officials were also appointed to administer the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1928.

Circulars containing full information regarding the requirements of the above-mentioned Acts and Orders were delivered to shopkeepers. Orders are now in operation regarding apples, currants, raisins and sultanas, honey, oat products, oatmeal, rolled oats, oat flour, and groats, eggs, tomatoes, malt flour and malt extract, and ware potatoes. All shops are now being re-visited in order to see that the requirements are being complied with. Up to 31st December, the number of such re-visits was 900.

Premises at the Cold Store in Green have been duly registered for the cold storage of eggs.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928.

Eleven samples were procured under the above Acts, and duly analysed. Five of the samples were procured from upholsterers, three from bedding manufacturers, and three from rag flock manufacturers.

All the samples conformed with the standard prescribed by the Regulations.

Undernoted are particulars:—

No. of Sample.	Chlorine (of Chlorides) per 100,000 parts of Flock.			
1.	7.8			
2.	10.0			
3.	12.5			
4.	10.6			
5.	6.3			
6.	9.1			
7.	5.6			
8.	13.4			
9.	6.6			
10.	29.0			
11.	12.5			

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT, 1908.

No additional application was received for licence to sell substances to be used exclusively in agriculture or horticulture. Applications for the renewal of existing licences were made and granted. The total number of premises licensed is now seven. The arrangements for keeping poisonous substances are found to be satisfactory.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

Following upon requests by the purchasers, three samples of fertilisers were procured by me in my capacity as official sampler.

Undernoted are particulars:—

No.	DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLE	ANALYSIS AS GUARANTEED				ANALYSIS AS FOUND			
		Nitro- gen	Phos- phoric Acid	Free Acid	Fine- ness	Nitro- gen	Phos- phoric Acid	Free Acid	Fine- ness
1	Bone Meal. . . .	% 4.50	% 20.0	% ..	% ..	% 4.17	% 16.32	% ...	% ...
2	Basic Slag, . . .	... ...	16.5	..	80	... 15.97	...	...	82.8
3	Sulphate of Ammonia	20.60	...	0.025	...	20.86	...	Nil.	...

When allowance is made for the "limits of error" provided by the Act, it was found that:—Sample No. 1 was 2.68 deficient in Phosphoric Acid. At the

request of the consigners the third part of this sample retained by the Agricultural Analyst was submitted to the Government Chemist for analysis in accordance with Section 3, Sub-Section 3 of the Act. The Government Chemist confirmed the deficiency. This deficiency is greater than the allowance prescribed in the Regulations for limits of variation. Samples Nos. 2 and 3 agreed with the statements contained in the invoices.

Section 12 (2) of the Act provides for the taking of "informal" samples by the Inspector.

Under this Section, one sample of a fertiliser, and ten samples of feeding stuffs were procured.

Undernoted are particulars:—

No.	Description of Sample	Analysis as Guaranteed		Analysis as Found	
		Nitrogen per cent.	Free Acid per cent.	Nitrogen per cent.	Free Acid per cent.
4	Sulphate of Ammonia	20.60	0.025	20.88	Nil

FEEDING STUFFS.

No.	Description of Sample	Analysis as Guaranteed			Analysis as Found		
		Oil	Albuminoids (Protein)	Fibre	Oil	Albuminoids (Protein)	Fibre
5	Linseed Compound,	% 7	% 25	% 9	% 7.00	% 26.88	% 8.80
6	Cake Nuts, Special Feeding Cake Nuts,	8	26	9½	7.20	24.88	12.14
7	Feeding Cake Nuts, No. 2,	7	21	11	6.38	20.19	12.40
8	Special Dairy Cake Nuts,	6	27	9½	6.60	25.00	10.63
9	Linseed Compound,	7	25	8	6.70	26.63	10.10
10	Calf Nuts, Poultry Meal,	4½	17	6	5.77	15.03	6.70
11	Pig Meal No. 2,	4	14	7	4.00	14.44	6.20
12	Pig Meal No. 3,	4	10	6	4.04	11.00	6.70
13	Calf Meal,	6	27	8	6.59	27.88	8.58
14	Middlings, . . . . .	...	...	6½	...	...	7.43

It will be observed that even when allowance was made for the "limits of error," Sample No. 6 contained 1.44 per cent. excess fibre; Sample No. 9 contained 1.10 per cent. excess fibre, and Sample No. 10 was 0.82 per cent. high in oil and 0.27 low in albuminoids. The manufacturers were communicated with.

SHOPS ACT, 1912, AND THE SHOPS (HOURS OF CLOSING) ACT, 1928.

The provisions of these Acts, and the Half-Holiday Orders and Closing Orders made under the principal Act, have been regularly enforced. In all 9,730 inspections were made by the Sanitary Staff during the year. Of these inspections, 1,325 were made to shops, where full inquiry was made as to whether the various requirements of the Shops Act, 1912, were being complied with. In 1,171, or 88 per cent., of the shops visited, no contravention was discovered. In the previous year similar inquiries were made in 703 shops, and in 625, or 89 per cent., no contravention was discovered.

Forty-one complaints regarding alleged contraventions of the Act were received during the year. All these complaints were immediately attended to, and, when necessary, steps taken to see that the requirements of the Act were fully complied with. Of these complaints, 18 related to the selling of non-exempted articles after the prescribed evening closing hour or on the afternoon of the weekly half-holiday. Twenty-three of the complaints related to the conditions of employment of the shop assistants, and in 20 of these cases no contravention was discovered. In the remaining three cases letters of warning were sent to the shopkeepers.

In the previous year the number of complaints was 55.

Half-Holiday Orders.

There are sixteen Half-Holiday Orders in force in the City. No additional Order was made in the course of the year.

The Aberdeen Shops (Weekly Half-Holiday) Amendment Order, 1914, provides that, during the weeks on which Christmas Day and New Year's Day occur, the half-holiday for the shops affected shall be such day as the occupier may specify in a notice affixed in his shop, as provided by Section 4 (3) of the Shops Act, 1912.

During Christmas and New Year weeks, all shops were inspected in order to see that the requirements of the aforementioned Order were complied with. In eleven cases it was found that the shopkeepers had failed to close their shops not later than one o'clock on one day of the week. As in every case the shopkeeper maintained that the contravention was due to a misunderstanding on his part, and as the shops were closed immediately after the contraventions were discovered, no further action was taken.

Six other minor contraventions of a Half-Holiday Order were discovered during the year. Letters of warning were sent to the offenders.

Closing Orders under Section 5 (for Fixing the Closing Hour for the Several Days of the Week).

A Closing Order for Watchmakers and Jewellers came into operation on 22nd May.

There are now seven Closing Orders in force, viz., for chemists, boot and shoe dealers, hairdressers, drapers, ironmongers, butchers, and watchmakers and jewellers. The provisions of these Orders are, so far as known, well observed.

Section 1 (1) and (2)—Shop Assistants' Half-Holiday.

A complaint was received regarding two of the assistants in a shop not having received the prescribed weekly half holiday. The contravention was reported to the Procurator Fiscal, and it was considered sufficient to send the shopkeeper a letter of warning.

In 3 out of the 1,325 shops inspected, it was found that the requirements as regards the weekly half-holiday were not being strictly complied with. In none of these cases, however, was it thought necessary to institute legal proceedings, but, in lieu thereof, letters of warning were sent to the offenders. Subsequent inspections proved that there was no longer any cause for complaint.

In 85 shops it was found that the assistants weekly half-holiday notice was not being exhibited or was not properly filled up. Letters of warning were sent in every case.

Section 1 (3)—Intervals for Meals.

In the course of making the routine inspections referred to, 4 irregularities in respect of the tea interval and 5 in connection with the dinner interval were discovered. Letters of warning were sent in all these cases, and, on subsequent inspections being made, it was found that the requirements of the Act were being strictly complied with.

In one case it was found that an assistant was being employed for more than six hours without an interval of at least twenty minutes being allowed during the course thereof. A letter of warning was sent, and the irregularity was forthwith removed.

Section 2 (1) and (3)—Hours of Employment of Young Persons under the age of 18 Years.

Four complaints were received regarding alleged contraventions of this Section, which requires that young persons must not be employed more than 74 hours, including meal times, in one week. In three cases there was no cause for complaint, In the remaining case, there was cause for complaint, but, as there were extenuating circumstances it was decided, after consultation with the Procurator Fiscal, to send the offender a letter of warning.

Five contraventions of this Section were, however, discovered by the Inspectors. In these cases also there were extenuating circumstances, and, after consultation with the Procurator Fiscal, it was decided to send the offenders letters of warning.

In 83 shops where "young persons" were being employed, it was found that the prescribed notice was not being exhibited. Letters of warning were sent in every case.

Subsequent inquiries disclosed that in all these cases the warnings had been attended to.

Section 3—Seats for Female Shop Assistants.

This Section requires that in all rooms of a shop where female assistants are employed in the serving of customers, the occupier of the shop shall provide seats

behind the counter or in such other position as may be suitable for the purpose, the seats to be in the proportion of not less than one seat to every three assistants.

No complaints were received regarding any contravention of this Section, but in one shop it was found that the requirements of the Section were not being strictly complied with. A letter of warning was sent, and, on subsequent inspection, it was found that a seat was duly provided.

Section 4 (1) and (3)—Half-Holiday Closing of Shops.

One complaint was received regarding a shopkeeper serving customers on the afternoon of the weekly half-holiday. No contravention was discovered.

It is the practice of the Department to issue warning circulars to all new occupiers of "mixed" shops, and, during the year, 117 such circulars were issued.

Section 9—Proceedings as to Trading elsewhere than in Shops.

Six letters of warning were sent to coal merchants and to one firewood merchant, regarding selling from carts on the afternoon of the weekly half-holiday.

In one of these cases, the warning was disregarded, and accordingly proceedings had to be instituted. The accused pled "Not Guilty" to the charge, but was convicted. The Sheriff stated that he regarded the prosecution somewhat in the light of a test case and admonished the respondent.

As the decision is of considerable importance to those engaged in the administration of the Shops Act, undernoted is a copy of the Sheriff's remarks.

"After detailing the effects on shops or depôts of Section 4 of the Act of 1912, taken along with the Order (No. 3) 1913, the question remains, whether the respondent is nevertheless entitled to retail coal in the streets on Wednesday afternoons.

"Having regard to the provisions of Section 9 of the Act of 1912, the answer, in my opinion, is clearly in the negative. The section provides that "it shall not be lawful in any locality to carry on in any place not being a shop, retail trade or business of any class at any time when it would be unlawful in that locality to keep a shop open for the purpose of retail trade or businesses of that class."

"In other words the provisions of Section 9 of the Act of 1912 prohibit the carrying on of any business to which an order made by the local authority applies in any place not being a shop within the locality after one p.m. on the weekly half-holiday. For the respondent, it is maintained that the streets libelled are not places within the meaning of the Section, and that therefore they are not guilty of the contravention libelled.

"That contention is in my view untenable. It is clear beyond doubt that a street is a place not being a shop to which the Act applies, and this view is that which was reached in three previous cases decided in the Lanarkshire and Banffshire Courts.

"I agree with my Banffshire colleague in thinking that any other view would defeat one of the main purposes of the Act—namely protection of the interests of local trades on the statutory weekly half-holiday.

"Considerations relative to hardships to employees and also based on public interests are advanced in the case, as suggesting reasons for arriving at a different conclusion. Such considerations are in my view irrelevant, but in any case they are

more apparent than real, for, as the complainer concedes, the Society may either from their dépôt (which is exempt under the Shops Order) implement on Wednesday afternoons orders previously given or paid for, or they may try to persuade the trade to agree to the weekly half-holiday being changed from Wednesday to Saturday, on which latter day the Society closes down for the week-end.

“With regard to the question of penalty and expenses, I propose to do no more than admonish and dismiss the respondent.

“The practice of selling on Wednesday afternoons has been carried on openly for a number of years, and it is certainly surprising that the authority have neither observed some of the sales nor taken steps to prevent contravention of the Statute and Order of 1913.

“Immunity from complaint or prosecution may well have created or strengthened a belief in the legality of the practice.”

Letters of warning were also sent to four onion dealers regarding hawking after the hours prescribed in the Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928.

Section 10 (1)—Conditions for Mixed Shops remaining open on Weekly Half-Holiday.

The attention of 13 shopkeepers was drawn to the fact that the notices required under this Section were not being exhibited. The Act requires that on the afternoon of the weekly half-holiday these notices must be exhibited both on the interior and on the exterior of the shop. In the majority of the cases referred to, only one notice was being exhibited. After warning, the notices required were in each case exhibited.

Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928.

Only eleven complaints were received from members of the public regarding alleged contraventions. In three of these cases, “test” purchases were made on the instructions of the Committee in charge of the administration of the Act. In each case, the shopkeeper, whose shop was legitimately open for the sale of certain exempted articles, refused to sell the non exempted articles asked for. From complaints received there is reason to believe that certain shopkeepers do not hesitate to contravene the Act if their customers are known to them, but do not sell non-exempted articles to strangers. Six contraventions discovered by the Police were reported to the Department, and proceedings instituted. In five cases penalties ranging from 20/- to 40/- were imposed. In the case where a penalty of 40/- was imposed, the accused admitted six previous convictions. In the remaining case the Court found the charge “Not Proven.”

In pursuance of the powers conferred on them by the Act, the Town Council made an Order to the effect that, “The hours for the sale of fruit to customers in all shops to which this Order applies shall during the months of June, July, August and September, be extended on Saturdays to 10 o’clock p.m.” The Order enacts that assistants in shops affected shall not be employed in or about the business of the shop for a longer number of hours than they were so employed previous to the making of the Order.

EXTERMINATION OF RATS.

The agreement entered into in 1917 between a number of citizens—mainly the proprietors of food warehouses and similar premises—under which the services of the two Corporation ratcatchers were made available to the contributors to the scheme, is still in operation. The number of contributors at the end of 1929 was 51, being one more than in the previous year. The number of visits paid to their premises during the year was 2,493, as compared with 2,561 in the previous year.

The services of the ratcatchers were also made available, on request, for 97 citizens' premises which were found to be infested with rats, on payment of the charges fixed by the Joint Committee in charge of the Scheme. The number of similar premises dealt with in the previous year was 125.

The ratcatchers periodically visit all open places, such as rubbish tips, railway embankments, burns, &c., and also all premises belonging to the Town Council which are known to be infested with rats.

Undernoted are particulars regarding the number of poisoned baits laid during the year :—

	Contributors' Premises	Non-Contributors' Premises	Town Council Premises	Total
Number of pieces of Poison Feed laid,	89 487	38,497	9,578	137,562
Number of pieces of Poison Feed eaten,	25,845	8,549	1,962	36,356
Liquid Poison laid,	179 ounces.	.....	.....	179 ounces.
Liquid Poison consumed,	5½ do.	.....	.....	5½ do.
Number of pieces of Dry Poison Feed (Mice) laid,	182	65	18	265
Number of pieces of Dry Poison Feed (Mice) eaten,	15	2	0	17

Following upon a suggestion made by the Department of Agriculture for Scotland, a "Rat Week" was, as in previous years, held during the week commencing 1st April. The only poison sold was red squill, which is non-injurious to human beings and domestic animals. Each purchaser was supplied with a set of instructions giving full information as to how the poison was to be used, and was also supplied with a stamped post card, on which he was asked to give particulars as to the results obtained. It was recommended that baits should be laid at least three times. Between 2,000 and 3,000 leaflets, inviting the occupiers of all rat-infested premises to take part in the campaign, were distributed. Advertisements were also inserted in the local press. During "Rat Week" the Department's ratcatchers were solely employed in laying poisoned baits in rubbish tips, burns, sewers, and other public places. Mice poison, in the form of red squill "safe" rat biscuits, was sold. These biscuits, like red squill, are harmless to human beings and domestic animals. Twenty-five sales were made—21 to City purchasers and 4 to country purchasers.

The biscuits were made up in packets of 20 and 40, the sales being 18 and 7 respectively. Unfortunately, only four of the purchasers returned the post cards given them.

As a supplement to the work done by the Department in connection with the extermination of rats, red squill is continuously on sale in the Public Health Office.

Undernoted are particulars as to the quantities of poison sold during "Rat Week" and also during the remainder of the year :—

	RAT WEEK			DURING REMAINDER OF YEAR		
	City Purchasers	Country Purchasers	Total	City Purchasers	Country Purchasers	Total
5-oz. bottles . . .	66	28	94	216	69	285
10-oz. do. . . .	39	16	55	97	73	170
25-oz. do. . . .	5	1	6	21	12	33
TOTALS, . . .	110	45	155	334	154	488

The quantity of poison sold during "Rat Week" was less than in the corresponding week in the previous year, the number of City purchasers being 110, and of country purchasers 45, as compared with 123 and 63 respectively. There was a considerable increase in the quantity sold in the Public Health office during the remainder of the year, the number of individual purchasers being 488, as compared with 395 in the previous year. The number of packets of red squill "safe" rat biscuits sold during the remainder of the year to City purchasers was 44 packets of 20 biscuits and 17 packets of 40 biscuits, and to country purchasers, 8 packets of 20 and 5 packets of 40. Three post cards were returned by City purchasers, and none by country purchasers.

Undernoted is a summary of the information contained in the post cards :—

Rat Week—1st April to 6th April.

CITY PURCHASERS							
Number of Post Cards		First Occasion		Second Occasion		Third Occasion	
Issued	Returned	Laid	Missing	Laid	Missing	Laid	Missing
110	16	432	250	413	235	365	146
Percentage of Baits missing . . .		58 per cent		57 per cent.		40 per cent.	

Number of baits laid by ratecatchers in public places	...	8,069
Number of such baits taken away	... ..	4,015
Percentage taken away	... ..	50 per cent.

COUNTRY PURCHASERS

Number of Post Cards		First Occasion		Second Occasion		Third Occasion	
Issued	Returned	Laid	Missing	Laid	Missing	Laid	Missing
45	11	286	124	226	61	168	24
Percentage of Baits missing . . .		43 per cent.		27 per cent.		14 per cent.	

Office Sales during remainder of Year.

CITY PURCHASERS

Number of Post Cards		First Occasion		Second Occasion		Third Occasion	
Issued	Returned	Laid	Missing	Laid	Missing	Laid	Missing
334	15	373	286	316	148	263	125
Percentage of Baits missing . . .		77 per cent.		47 per cent.		48 per cent.	

COUNTRY PURCHASERS

Number of Post Cards		First Occasion		Second Occasion		Third Occasion	
Issued	Returned	Laid	Missing	Laid	Missing	Laid	Missing
154	9	365	301	330	185	111	22
Percentage of Baits missing . . .		82 per cent.		56 per cent.		20 per cent.	

As part of their routine duty, all the District Inspectors keep a look-out for rat-infested premises, and, when such are found and sufficient steps are not being taken to exterminate the rats, a notice is served under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, upon either the occupier or owner. The number of such notices served during the past year was 81. The corresponding number in each of the four preceding years was, respectively, 60 in 1928, 65 in 1927, 103 in 1926, and 81 in 1925.

There is no doubt that the continuous work which has been carried on in the City during the past twelve years in connection with the extermination of rats is having good effect. Nevertheless it is necessary in certain premises, on account of the difficulty in making such premises rat-proof, to carry on ceaselessly the work of extermination. Whenever possible, every effort is made to prevent re-infestation.

Valuable assistance continues to be rendered by the Burgh Surveyor's Department in raising the pavements and closing up the rat runs.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES AND HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

At the end of 1929 there were only two common lodging-houses in the City, viz., the Sailors' Home and the Home for Deep Sea Fishermen.

The number of houses let in lodgings on the register at the end of the year was 24. This number includes three houses which were formerly registered as common lodging-houses, but which, on account of the charge per night having been, in 1920, increased beyond the sum of 6d., were transferred to the register of houses let in lodgings.

Twenty-four day visits and 26 night visits were made to the common lodging-houses, while 376 day visits and 214 night visits were paid to the houses let in lodgings. The houses were kept in good repair and in a cleanly condition. Particular attention is paid to the cleanliness of the bedding.

The Corporation Lodging-House continues to be maintained in a satisfactory condition. The number of lodgers ranged from 123 to 195.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS, CINEMAS, &c.

Following upon the circular letter from the Scottish Board of Health, dated 6th December, 1920, all the places of public entertainment were periodically visited during the year. The number of licensed places of amusement is 51, and the number of visits paid was 150.

Details of the work done are given in Appendix II. (1).

PORT SANITARY INSPECTION.

In accordance with the scheme of Port Sanitary Administration prepared by the Local Authority and approved by the Scottish Board of Health, 341 vessels—246 foreign and 95 British—were inspected during the year. Of these, 9 were found to be unsatisfactory.

Careful inquiry is made regarding the presence of rats. Preventive measures were taken on board all vessels arriving from plague suspected ports. These consisted of the provision of rat-guards for all mooring ropes and hawsers to prevent the escape of rats on shore, and the taking of destructive measures on board. Specimens of rats secured were submitted for bacteriological examination, and in all cases negative results were obtained. The services of the Department's rat-catchers were employed in connection with four vessels.

Five vessels, from which cases of infectious disease or suspected infectious disease were removed, were disinfected.

Undernoted are particulars as to the vessels visited:—

<i>Foreign—</i>			Number Visited	Found Satisfactory.	Found Unsatisfactory.	Number of Notices Issued.
Steamers	...	...	237	230	7	6
Motor	...	...	5	5	—	—
Sailing	...	...	—	—	—	—
Fishing	...	...	4	4	—	—
Total Foreign			246	239	7	6
<i>Coastwise—</i>						
Steamers	...	...	91	89	2	2
Motor	...	...	2	2	—	—
Sailing	...	...	2	2	—	—
Fishing	...	...	—	—	—	—
Total Coastwise			95	93	2	2
Total Foreign and Coastwise			341	332	9	8

Nuisances and Defects Discovered.

FORECASTLES, ROOMS, &c.

Walls dirty	...	...	1	Infested with vermin	...	1
Port-lights defective	...	...	1	Accumulation of refuse	...	1
Side Plates leaking	...	...	1	Heating stove defective	...	1

W.Cs., WASH-HOUSES, &c.

Seats or basins dirty	...	1	Wastepipes choked and defective	2
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INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There were in all 1,837 cases of infectious disease removed to, or treated in, the various hospitals, and 118 cases were removed to the Reception House. In addition, 193 cases of marasmus were treated in the Municipal Hospitals. The number of cases of infectious disease supervised at home was 1,476. There were 943 cases of pneumonia (including 74 cases of acute influenzal pneumonia), 466 of chicken-pox, 428 of whooping cough, 424 of scarlet fever, 410 of diphtheria, 132 of erysipelas, 126 of pulmonary tuberculosis, 82 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis, 70 of Ophthalmia neonatorum, 70 of puerperal pyrexia (including 49 of puerperal sepsis), 66 of dysentery, 48 of measles, 15 of German measles, 7 of typhoid and paratyphoid, 4 of malaria, 4 of epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis, 3 of epidemic encephalitis, 2 of acute poliomyelitis, and 1 of smallpox.

The usual notices were in every case served under Section 50 (2) and Section 53 (2) of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897.

There were 2,556 intimations made to school teachers, 3,180 houses and 3,735 sets of clothing and bedding disinfected, and 353 chaff beds destroyed.

INTERMENTS.

Applications were received in 17 cases, under Section 69 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, to bury unclaimed bodies or the bodies of persons whose relatives were unable to do so, as compared with 13 in 1928.

Sixteen of the applications were granted, at a cost to the Department of £36 12s. 0d., of which £13 10s. 0d. was refunded by relatives and others.

The ages of the interred were :—8 under one year of age, and 8 from twelve years of age and upwards.

Fourteen of the interments were carried out in Trinity Cemetery, one in the Grove Cemetery, and one in St. Peter's Cemetery.

PROSECUTIONS.

Particulars as to the prosecutions instituted by the Department in the course of the year will be found in Appendix V.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES CUMMING.

Sanitary Inspector.

APPENDIX I.

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND OTHER ACTS
DURING 1929.

	Number
Subordinate Sanitary Inspectors employed,	12
I.—NUISANCES.	
Complaints received,	3,448
Intimations under Section 19,	5,535
Notices served under Section 20,	170
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	0
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were successful,	0
II.—FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (including Bakehouses).	
Inspections,	2,781
Notices served under Section 2 (3) of Factory and Workshop Act, 1901,	555
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	0
III.—TENTS AND VANS.	
Inspections,	740
IV.—UNDERGROUND DWELLINGS.	
Reported to Local Authority,	0
Notices to Owners (Section 74),	0
V.—COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.	
On Register at 31st December, 1929	2
*Common Lodging-Houses belonging to the Local Authority,	1
Inspections between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m.	24
Inspections between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m.,	26
Intimations of Irregularities sent to Keepers,	0
Cases of Infectious Disease reported to Medical Officer (Section 97),	0
Unregistered Premises dealt with,	0
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken (Breaches of Bye-laws, &c.),	0
* Meantime registered as a "House Let in Lodgings."	
VI.—HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.	
On Register at 31st December, 1929,	24
Inspections between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m.,	376
Inspections between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m.,	214
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	0
VII.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.	
Visits of Inquiry, &c.,	10,546
Patients removed to Hospital,	1,837
Persons removed to House of Reception,	118
Notices served under Section 50 (2),	*3,288
Notices served under Section 53 (2),	
Intimations to Education Authorities, Teachers, &c.,	2,556
Houses and Premises disinfected,	3,180
Sets of Clothing, Bedding, &c., disinfected or destroyed,	3,735
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	0

* 1644 of each.

VIII.—BURIALS.

Burials undertaken in terms of Section 69,	16
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IX.—SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Applications under Section 32 for sanction to establish,	1
Applications granted,	1
Applications under Section 33 for Licence or Renewal of Licence,	7
Applications granted,	7
Public Slaughter-Houses (if any) belonging to Local Authority,	0
Private Slaughter-Houses,	5
Unlicensed Slaughter-Houses dealt with,	0
Inspections of Slaughter-Houses,	3,312
Inspections of other Offensive Businesses,	2,084
Number of such other Offensive Businesses at 31st December, 1929,	40
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken (Breaches of Bye-laws, &c.),	0

X.—UN SOUND FOOD.

Inspections under Section 43, (a) Meat,	0
(b) Other Foods,	3,110
Seizures of Unsound Food, (a) Meat,	0
(b) Other Foods,	118
Animals or Carcases or Articles of Food destroyed with Owner's Consent by or at the instance of the Sanitary Inspector,	118
Cases in which Owners of Unsound Food were prosecuted,	0
Convictions in connection with above cases,	0

XI.—FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT.

Samples procured for Analysis,	1,470
Certified to be Genuine,	1,400
Certified to be Adulterated,	70
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	13
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were successful,	13

XII.—RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911.

Samples procured for Analysis,	11
Certified to conform to standard,	11
Certified not to conform to standard,	0
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	0

XIII.—FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT.

Samples procured for analysis,	14
Certified correct,	10
Certified deficient,	4

XIV.—BYE-LAWS.

Inspections in carrying out Bye-laws relating to—	
(a) Pig-styes,	112
(b) Other sanitary matters,	0

APPENDIX II.

DETAILS OF WORK DONE DURING YEAR.

A—Drainage.

Defective drains made good,	24
Drains properly ventilated,	4
Additional water-closets fitted up,	2
Water-closet fitted up in lieu of privies,	1
Defective water-closets replaced,	14
Defective water-closets repaired,	69
Soil-pipes of water-closets renewed or repaired,	19
Ventilation pipes renewed or repaired,	13
Water-closet cisterns repaired,	125
Overflow pipes from cisterns repaired,	12
Pulls for cisterns provided,	9
Defective flushpipes repaired,	87
Basins of water-closets replaced or repaired,	49
Additional water supplies provided for water-closets,	5
Additional sink provided,	1
Defective sinks replaced or repaired,	16
Water supply pipes repaired,	74
Water taps repaired,	6
Defective baths replaced,	7
Defective wash-hand basins replaced,	4
Waste or rain-water pipes replaced or repaired,	103
Defective grid traps replaced,	9
New gratings provided for grid traps,	19
New grating provided for fresh air inlet,	1
Eaves gutters renewed or repaired,	91
Defective inspection covers renewed,	22
New covers provided for intercepting traps,	3
Choked drains and pipes cleared out,	985
Choked water-closets cleared out,	155
Drains flushed,	11

B—Structural Defects, &c.

Accumulations of ashes, filth, and other rubbish removed,	187
Accumulations of stagnant water removed,	10
Cesspools cleaned out,	2
Accumulations of manure removed,	16
Manure pit repaired,	1
Passages paved,	2
Bleachgreens re-surfaced,	2
Courts repaired,	30
Passages repaired,	29
Unsuitable apartment disused as sleeping apartment,	1
Enclosed bed opened up,	1
Overcrowding abated,	196

Improved window ventilation for dwelling apartments,	20
Broken sashcords renewed,	55
Broken quadrants renewed or repaired,	11
Sash fasteners repaired or renewed,	3
Rollers for blinds provided,	3
Windows of dwelling apartments reglazed or repaired,	108
Roof-lights of dwelling apartments reglazed or repaired,	13
Windows or roof-lights of lobbies or staircases reglazed or repaired	119
Windows or roof-lights of drying-lofts reglazed or repaired,	2
Windows or roof-lights of water-closets reglazed,	84
Windows or roof-lights of wash-houses reglazed,	113
Additional ventilation provided for water-closet,	1
Additional ventilation provided for wash-houses,	3
Additional ventilation provided for staircase,	1
Walls of dwelling-houses repaired,	18
Walls of dwelling-houses re-harled or re-pointed,	3
Window rybats re-pointed,	17
Damp dwelling-houses remedied,	50
Sub-floor ventilators provided,	5
Roof coverings of dwelling-houses repaired,	77
Plaster on walls and ceilings of dwelling-houses repaired,	193
Plaster on walls and ceilings of lobbies and staircases repaired,	614
Plaster on walls and ceilings of pends and passages repaired,	44
Plaster on walls and ceilings of water-closets repaired,	192
Plaster on walls and ceilings of wash-houses repaired,	164
Plaster on walls and ceilings of drying lofts repaired,	5
Walls and ceilings of dwelling apartments whitewashed or repapered,	125
Walls and ceilings of lobbies and staircases whitewashed or otherwise cleaned,	1,459
Walls and ceilings of passages whitewashed,	364
Walls and ceilings of private pends limewashed,	58
Walls and ceilings of bathrooms cleaned,	2
Walls and ceilings of water-closets whitewashed,	3,058
Walls and ceilings of privies cleaned,	10
Walls and ceilings of wash-houses whitewashed,	1,788
Walls and ceilings of drying-lofts whitewashed,	64
Floors of dwelling apartments repaired,	50
Floor of drying-loft repaired,	1
Floors of lobbies, landings, and stair-steps repaired,	139
Wash-houses repaired—	
Roofs,	66
Walls,	14
Floors,	15
Doors,	22
Tubs,	41
Gantries,	16
Brickwork of boilers,	101
Furnaces,	35
Boilers repaired or renewed,	19
Boiler lids repaired or renewed,	15
Flues,	30
Windows,	39

Water-closet apartments repaired—

Roofs,	77
Walls,	18
Floors,	7
Doors,	42
Seats,	102
Windows,	16

Cellars repaired—

Roofs,	161
Walls,	66
Doors,	92

Locks for water-closet apartments provided or repaired,	46
Woodwork around sinks renewed or repaired,	63
Defective chimneys repaired,	30
Grates and fire-places repaired,	79
Doors of dwelling-houses repaired or provided,	60
Door furniture renewed or repaired,	66
Mantel shelves repaired,	5
Back gate repaired,	1
Woodwork of cupboards repaired,	21
Stair handrails or balustrades repaired or renewed,	39
Linoleum coverings of lobbies, stairsteps, &c., repaired or renewed,	6
Clothes poles renewed or repaired,	5
Boundary walls repaired,	13
Pailings repaired,	19
Back courts and areas cleaned,	42
Passages cleaned,	33
Lane cleaned,	1
Entrance lobbies, stairsteps, and landings cleaned,	37
Floors, seats, and basins of water-closets cleaned,	72
Floors of wash-houses cleaned,	13
Floors of drying-lofts cleaned,	14
Wash-house boiler cleaned,	1
Wash-house tubs cleaned,	1
Sinks cleaned,	2
Floors of dwelling apartments cleaned,	101
Dwelling apartments in which articles of furniture were cleaned,	95
Sets of bed and body clothing cleaned,	97
Nuisances caused by domestic animals abated,	74
Offensive smells in dwelling apartments abated,	27
Houses cleared of bugs,	81

C—Smoke Abatement.

(a) Factories, &c.—

Number of observations made,	67
Number of cases where notices were served or warnings given,	10
Number of prosecutions,	0

(b) Steam Wagons—

Number of observations made,	1,392
Number of cases where warnings were given,	41
Number of prosecutions,	0

(c) Railway Engines—

Number of observations made,	140
Number of cases where warnings were given,	2
Number of prosecutions,	0

D—Pig-Styes.

Walls and ceilings of pig-styes limewashed,	484
Walls and ceilings of boiling-houses limewashed,	36
Walls of pig-styes repaired,	26
Roofs of pig-styes repaired,	15
Floors of pig-styes repaired,	57
Floors of boiling-houses repaired,	8
Door of pig-sty repaired,	1
Partition walls repaired,	27
Boiling-houses repaired,	3
Courtyards repaired,	3
Passages repaired,	6
Manure pit repaired,	1
Feeding troughs repaired or renewed,	36
Floors of pig-styes cleaned,	8
Floors of boiling-houses cleaned,	5
Boilers cleaned,	7
Passages cleaned,	3
Feeding troughs cleaned,	12
Improved means of drainage provided,	4
Courtyards cleaned,	5
Cesspools repaired,	4
Cesspools emptied,	10
Accumulations of manure removed,	22
Accumulation of rubbish removed,	1
Windows and roof-lights reglazed,	14
Improved lighting and ventilation provided,	2
Choked drains cleared out,	4

E—Workshops.

On register at beginning of year,	732
Added during year,	41
Closed during year,	28
Converted into factories,	18
On register at end of year,	727
Number of visits paid,	2,481
Walls and ceilings of workshops limewashed or otherwise cleaned,	87
Walls and ceilings of water-closets limewashed or otherwise cleaned,	31
Basins of water-closets cleaned,	20
Floors of water-closets cleaned,	13
Seats of water-closets cleaned,	3
Floors of workrooms cleaned,	3
Floors of cloakrooms cleaned,	2
Windows cleaned,	10
Floor of staircase or passage cleaned,	1
Premises in which fish boxes were cleaned,	3
Offal stances cleaned,	2
Seat of water-closet repaired or renewed,	1

Door of water-closet repaired,	1
Defective water-closets repaired,	18
Choked drains or pipes cleared out,	11
Additional water-closet accommodation provided,	4
Intervening ventilating space provided,	1
Additional ventilation provided for workshops,	4
Floors of workshops repaired,	8
Windows reglazed,	4
Courtyards cleaned,	12
Accumulations of rubbish removed,	7
Accumulations of manure removed,	8
Accumulations of fish offal removed,	4
Other complaints removed,	24

F—Bakehouses.

On register at beginning of year,	77
Added during year,	2
Closed during year,	4
On register at end of year,	75
Number of visits paid,	336
Bakehouses limewashed,	42
Glazed walls cleaned,	4
Pastry rooms limewashed,	4
Stores or cellars limewashed,	16
Water-closets limewashed,	14
Passages and staircases limewashed,	2
Cloakrooms limewashed,	2
Floors of bakehouses cleaned,	29
Floors of stores cleaned,	14
Floors of pastry rooms cleaned,	5
Floors of cloakrooms cleaned,	2
Stairsteps and passages, &c., cleaned,	4
Floors of water-closets cleaned,	12
Basins of water-closets cleaned,	18
Seats of water-closets cleaned,	14
Windows cleaned,	25
Sinks or wash-hand basins cleaned,	13
Ovens and hot-plates cleaned,	9
Baking Machines cleaned,	31
Steam presses cleaned,	12
Bakehouse tables cleaned,	11
Baking utensils cleaned,	20
Fittings cleaned,	42
Woodwork of doors cleaned,	17
Courtyard cleaned,	1
Additional ventilation provided for bakehouse,	1
Defective waste pipes repaired,	4
Defective water-closets repaired,	2
Floors of bakehouses repaired,	3
Tables repaired,	4
Cords provided for windows and roof-lights,	5
Seats of water-closets repaired,	5

Plaster on walls and ceilings of bakehouses repaired,	4
Windows repaired or reglazed,	15
Accumulations of rubbish and manure removed,	19
Covers provided for food receptacles,	10
Premises cleared of vermin,	3
Water-closet cisterns repaired,	2
Fastenings for w.c. doors provided,	4

G—Milkshops.

Walls of milkshops cleaned,	30
Ceilings of milkshops cleaned,	33
Walls of back rooms cleaned,	39
Ceilings of back rooms cleaned,	27
Walls and ceilings of passage cleaned,	1
Walls of W.C. whitewashed,	1
Walls of cellars whitewashed,	5
Windows cleaned,	4
Shelves, counters, and other fittings cleaned,	23
Cupboards cleaned,	2
Sinks cleaned,	4
Woodwork of sinks cleaned,	5
Milk vessels cleaned,	6
Stairsteps cleaned,	1
Floors cleaned,	14
Floors, seats, and basins of water-closets cleaned,	2
Doors communicating with common lobbies closed up,	5
General cleanliness improved,	15
Area cleaned out,	1
Hot-water boiler cleaned,	1
Sink repaired,	1
Roof coverings repaired,	2
Floor coverings renewed or repaired,	29
Floors repaired,	17
Plaster repaired,	2
Milk vessel renewed,	1
Cover for milk vessels renewed,	1
Covers for milk vessels repaired,	1
Warnings given regarding covers not being used,	10
Woodwork of sink repaired,	1
Windows reglazed or repaired,	7
Accumulations of rubbish removed,	10
Milk carts repainted or cleaned,	4
Shops from which unsuitable articles were removed,	5
Other complaints removed,	5

H—Food Shops.

Walls and ceilings of shops cleaned,	85
Walls and ceilings of back rooms cleaned,	91
Walls and ceilings of stores cleaned,	21
Walls and ceilings of cloakrooms cleaned,	5
Walls and ceilings of staircases cleaned,	6
Walls and ceilings of cellars cleaned,	26

Walls and ceilings of water-closets cleaned,	16
Walls and ceilings of urinals cleaned,	2
Floors of shops cleaned,	23
Floors of cellars cleaned,	8
Floors, seats, and basins of water-closets cleaned,	7
Fittings cleaned,	17
Window cleaned,	1
Door cleaned,	1
Additional ventilation provided,	2
Plaster on walls and ceilings repaired,	14
Counters repaired,	2
Floors repaired,	9
Stairsteps repaired,	1
Floor coverings repaired or renewed,	31
Woodwork around sinks repaired,	2
Windows of shops reglazed or repaired,	5
Sink renewed,	1
Wash-hand basin provided,	1
Waste pipes repaired,	2
Accumulations of rubbish removed,	19
Doors communicating with common passages closed up,	5
Additional water-closet fitted up,	1
Other complaints removed,	7

I—Places of Public Amusement.

Number of inspections,	150
Sashcords for windows renewed,	4
Cords for ventilators renewed,	3
Premises in which seats were cleaned,	11
Premises in which seats were repaired,	4
Floors of water-closets cleaned,	2
Walls of halls cleaned,	19
Walls of heating chambers cleaned,	2
Walls and ceilings of dressing-rooms cleaned,	27
Walls and ceilings of staircases and passages cleaned,	23
Walls and ceilings of operating boxes cleaned,	5
Walls and ceilings of water-closets cleaned,	41
Walls and ceilings of urinals cleaned,	5
Additional W.C. provided,	1
Defective drain renewed,	1
Urinal stalls cleaned,	4
Floor coverings renewed or repaired,	6
Water-closet seats repaired or renewed,	5
Windows reglazed,	3
Plaster on walls and ceilings repaired,	4
Choked drain cleared,	1
Accumulation of rubbish removed,	1
Other complaints removed,	6

APPENDIX III.

INSPECTIONS OF FOOD.

NUMBER AND PLACE OF INSPECTIONS OF FOOD DURING YEAR 1929.

Fish Market,	302	Fleshers' Shops,	11
Shipping Sheds,	240	Restaurants,	2
Fish-curing Premises,	1,143	New Market Hall,	260
Slaughter houses,	3,312	Street Markets,	141
Meat Marts,	1,743	Other Premises,	2,298
Provision Curing Works	276		
Grocers' Shops,	25		
Fishmongers' Shops,	4	Total,	9,909
Wholesale Warehouses,... ..	152		

UNSOOUND FOOD SEIZED OR DESTROYED DURING YEAR 1929.

		WEIGHT IN LBS.										
	No. of Seizures.	Beef.*	Veal*	Mutton.*	Pork.*	Offal.	Poultry.	Game.	Tinned Foods	Fruit.	Eggs.	Fish.
Jany., ...	90	22,911	...	614	798	506	...	...	677	...	...	...
Feb'y., ...	93	27,936	16	984	1,016	260	...	...	260	...	...	9,520
March, ...	80	17,303	226	438	1,141	536	...	...	282	...	...	...
April, ...	111	28,035	...	702	434	644	...	...	490	...	...	...
May, ...	138	27,105	132	1,100	437	640	...	...	958	400	...	...
June, ...	90	18,228	...	368	228	512	...	...	647	...	3	...
July, ...	88	25,016	...	310	255	237	...	...	590	...	...	4,704
August, ...	94	13,876	...	341	472	522	14	30	457	...	...	29,462
Sept., ...	85	25,853	...	432	467	326	60	...	592	...	...	...
Oct., ...	82	17,784	112	331	1,038	514	...	...	829	...	...	...
Nov., ...	91	20,410	44	191	626	692	...	120	306	...	...	...
Dec, ...	93	21,583	...	186	1,136	478	25	520	750	100	...	...
Total, ...	1,135	266,040	530	5,997	8,048	5,867	99	670	6,838	500	3	43,686

Including offal where forming only part of seizure.

FOOD INSPECTIONS—SUMMARY FOR YEARS 1920 TO 1929.

	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Number of Inspections,...	9,828	10,080	8,507	8,123	9,654	10,645	9,877	10,018	10,230	9,909
Number of Seizures, ...	2,504	1,350	1,328	1,398	1,616	1,552	1,329	1,295	1,237	1,135
Weight of Food Seized (Tons),	272	133	156	132	177	155	139	134	151	151
Number of Cases dealt with by Magistrates, ...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	*2	...
Legal Proceedings instituted, ...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Fines Imposed, ... ..	...	£10 10s.	...	...	...	...	...	...	£25	...

* Proceedings instituted by the Meat Inspector.

APPENDIX IV.

LIST OF REGISTERED WORKSHOPS IN ABERDEEN AT 31st DECEMBER, 1929,
WITH NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES.

Description of Workshop.	Number.	No. of Male Employees.	No of Female Employees.
Bakers, ...	33	41	43
Basketmakers, ...	2	16	—
Blacksmiths, ...	19	30	—
Blind Makers, ...	2	2	—
Bootmakers, ...	12	11	—
Bottlers, ...	5	12	10
Cartwrights, ...	4	3	—
Carvers, ...	2	1	—
Confectioners, ...	11	8	7
Coopers, ...	6	12	—
Corset Maker, ...	1	—	—
Cycle Repairers, ...	13	14	—
Dentists (Mechanical), ...	3	11	1
Embroiderer, ...	1	—	2
Engravers, ...	5	4	—
Fish Curers, ...	84	197	351
Fishdriers, ...	3	19	—
Fishing Net Makers, ...	6	12	77
Fish Packers, ...	93	228	70
Fish Box Washers, ...	16	37	—
Fishing Tackle Makers, ...	2	4	38
Florist, ...	1	—	6
Furniture, Makers of, ...	27	62	32
Furriers, ...	3	—	8
Gold Paint Manufacturer, ...	1	1	1
Golf Club Repairer, ...	1	1	—
Gut or Tripe Cleaner, ...	1	5	14
Health Salt Manufacturer, ...	1	—	2
Indiarubber Merchants, ...	2	2	4
Joiners, ...	12	13	—
Japanner, ...	1	2	—
Laundries, ...	4	1	3
Mattress Maker, ...	1	—	1
Milliners, ...	29	—	60
Motor Repairers, ...	18	46	—
Oil Manufacturer, ...	1	3	—
Optician, ...	1	1	—
Onion Bunching, ...	4	11	—
Painters (including Glass Stainers), ...	34	296	2
Paper Bag Maker, ...	1	—	4
Photographers, ...	15	5	82
Piano Repairers, ...	3	3	4
Picture Frame Makers, ...	8	18	2

Description of Workshop.					Number.	No. of Male Employees.	No. of Female Employees.
Plaster Casters and Tile Fixers,	...	...	...	...	4	7	—
Plumbers,	...	...	...	...	27	101	—
Rag and Metal Merchants,	...	...	...	...	12	24	16
Riggers,	...	...	...	...	4	16	—
Ropemakers,	...	...	...	...	2	4	—
Sack repairer,	...	...	...	...	1	4	—
Saddlers,	...	...	...	...	9	13	5
Sailmakers,	...	...	...	...	3	3	—
Saw Trimmers,	...	...	...	...	3	7	—
Scale Repairers,	...	...	...	...	2	7	—
Sheet Metal Workers,	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
Shirtmaker,	...	...	...	...	1	—	4
Stonecutters,	...	...	...	...	6	19	—
Sewing Machine Repairer,	...	...	...	...	1	2	—
Tailors,	...	...	...	...	101	152	157
Tinsmiths,	...	...	...	...	7	18	—
Typewriter Repairers,	...	...	...	...	3	4	—
Undertakers,	...	...	...	...	2	3	—
Watchmakers and Jewellers,	...	...	...	...	13	14	—
Wearing Apparel, Makers of	...	...	...	...	60	—	174
Wigmakers,	...	...	...	...	3	5	2
Wireworkers,	...	...	...	...	2	5	—
Totals,					760	1,542	1,182

Date.	Court.	Act.	Offence.	Penalty or Decision.
1929				
Jan. 31	Sheriff	Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928	Selling rum which was 36·8 degrees under proof	Penalty, £2
Feb. 24	Do.	Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928	Selling tea and flour beyond prescribed closing hour	Penalty, 25s
Mar. 12	Do.	(Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations Do.	Selling mince containing 50 parts per million sulphur dioxide	Case withdrawn; warning given
April 4	Do.	Do.	Selling sausages containing 635 parts per million sulphur dioxide	Penalty, 25s.
" 4	Do.	Do.	Selling mince containing 221 parts per million sulphur dioxide	Penalty, 25s.
" 19	Do.	Do.	Selling sausages containing 470 parts per million sulphur dioxide	Penalty, 25s.
" 19	Do.	Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928	Selling sweet milk containing not more than 2·83 p.c. fat	Case withdrawn as milk from cows found to be under the standard.
" 19	Do.	Do.	Selling sweet milk containing not more than 2·10 p.c. fat	Case withdrawn; warning given.
" 19	Do.	Do.	Selling sweet milk containing not more than 2·70 p.c. fat	Case withdrawn; warning given.
" 24	Do.	Do.	Selling sweet milk containing not more than 2·90 p.c. fat	Penalty, £3.
May 1	Do.	Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928	Selling oranges beyond prescribed closing hour	Penalty, 25s.
" 2	Do.	Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928	Selling whisky which was 1·3 degrees under the strength stated on the label affixed to the receptacle	Penalty, 40s.
" 16	Do.	Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928	Selling apples, bananas, and caramels beyond prescribed closing hour	Penalty, 40s. (seventh offence).
" 24	Do.	Shops Act, 1912, and The Aberdeen Shops Weekly Half-Holiday Order (No. 3), 1913	Hawking coals on the afternoon of the weekly half-holiday	Admonished.
" 25	Do.	Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928	Selling sweet milk containing not more than 2·90 p.c. fat, and not more than 7·98 p.c. solids other than fat	Case withdrawn; warning given.
" 25	Do.	Do.	Selling sweet milk containing not more than 2·89 p.c. fat	Case withdrawn; warning given.

Date.	Court.	Act.	Offence.	Penalty or Decision.
1929 May 28	Sheriff	Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928	Selling confectionery beyond prescribed closing hour	Penalty, 20s.
" 31	Do.	Shops Act, 1912	Failing to give two assistants the prescribed weekly half-holiday	Case withdrawn; letter of warning sent.
June 12	Do.	Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928	Selling apples beyond prescribed closing hour	Case withdrawn; letter of warning sent.
" 27	Do.	(Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations do.	Selling mince containing 1209 parts per million sulphur dioxide, and sausages containing 1182 parts per million sulphur dioxide	Penalty, £2; being £1 for each offence.
" 27	Do.	Do.	Selling sausages containing 730 parts per million sulphur dioxide	Penalty, 30s.
July 11	Do.	Do.	Selling sausages containing 718 parts per million sulphur dioxide	Penalty, 20s.
Aug. 1	Do.	(Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928, and Aberdeen (Sale of Fruit) Closing Order, 1929 do.	Selling gooseberries beyond prescribed closing hour	Penalty, 20s. (second offence).
" 13	Do.	Do.	Selling strawberries beyond prescribed closing hour	Charge found "Not Proven"
Sept. 19	Do.	Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928	Selling sweet milk containing not more than 2.22 p.c. fat	Penalty, £3 3s.
Nov. 25	Do.	Do.	Selling sweet milk containing not more than 2.87 p.c. fat	Penalty, 10s
" 28	Do.	Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Order, 1925	Using milk bottles without having obtained the consent of the owners of the bottles	Penalty, £2 10s
Dec. 2	Do.	Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928	Supplying sweet milk containing not more than 2.81 p.c. fat and not more than 8.11 p.c. solids other than fat	Penalty, £3 3s.
1930 Jan. 7	Police	The Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914, and Byelaws made thereunder	Using as a dwelling and sleeping apartment a room directly communicating with a milk shop	Penalty 20s. or 16 days' imprisonment.
" 9	Sheriff	Shops Act, 1912	Failing to give three assistants the prescribed weekly half-holiday	Penalty, 2s 6d. for each offence, with 25s 6d. of expenses.